

II.

Indian Post Offices in Persia

Introduction

The increasing political and mercantile value of the Persian Gulf and its surrounding areas is manifested in the creation of the first regular line of mail steamers between Bombay, the Mekran coast and the main ports in the Gulf in 1862. Another reason was also to police the piracy activities which had been rather bothersome for a long time. This event led soon to the establishment of regular post offices in the Gulf.

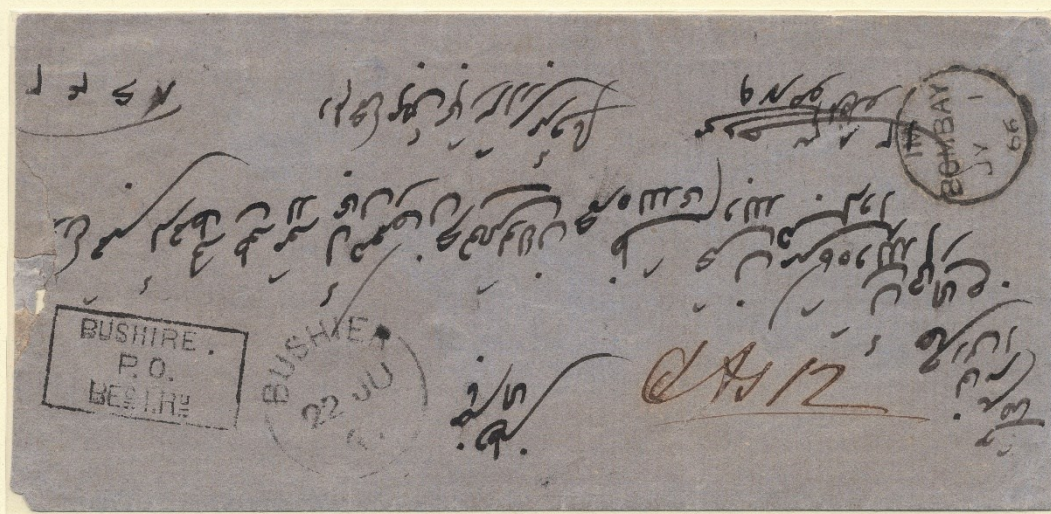
As for Persia the first regular Indian post office opened in Persia, in Bushire in 1864 simultaneously with Muscat. It was followed by Linga and Bandar Abbas in 1867, Jask and Mohammerah, etc. The early POs opened under the Bombay Postal circle. In 1869 they were transferred to the Sind Circle (Karachi) and in 1879 they all reverted to Bombay.

In the beginning the local governors in Persia littoral were in favour of the IPOs as they promoted trade. Persia introduced a modernized postal system as from 1875. Gradually Persia established their own POs along the coast. All the offices used postage stamps of East India and India so the only way to distinguish one office from the other is by the postmarks. India inland rates applied

Note: The post offices of Koh-i-Malik-Siah-Ziarat Indian P.O. and Dozdap I.P.O. are exchange post offices only. They are dealt with under part C.2.1, Overland route to India

Unpaid letter from Bushire in 1866

The rectangular BUSHIRE./P.O./BE 1.R. where 1 Rupee is the highest denomination of which two recorded



Letter put up-side down

Unpaid letter from Bushire 22 June 1866 to Bombay arr. 1 July, bearing rectangular **BUSHIRE./P.O./BE 1.R.** i.e. the receiver was charged. In m/s **As 12** that may stand for insurance fee. A very high rated letter

Indian Post Offices and their Persian counterparts. Green: IPOs established before the postal agreement of opening Exchange POs in 1877. **Red:** under Mesopotamian postal administration in WWI. All regular closed 1923

Name of Office	Postal location	Opened as IPO Agency	Opened as permanent Indian PO	Opened as Exchange Office	Opening date of Persian Post Offices Both regular and exchange
Bushire	The main Indian PO & HQ in the Gulf		1 st May 1864	1878	1877
Linga	(under Bushire)	1 st April 1867	Dec 1867		End of 1890s
Bandar Abbas	- " -	1 st April 1867	July 1868	1878	1882
Jask			1 st Sept 1880		Probably 1904. Again 1914
Mohammerah (un. Bushire; In WWI to Mesopotamia)		19 th July 1892	1892	1892	1892
Kuh-Malek-Ziah-Ziarat	(Eastern Persia)		Only as Exchange Office 1903		1903
Dozdab	- " -		Exchange Office	1921	1920
Henjam	(under Bushire)		1903 again 21 st June 1913		Aug 1904. Soon closed
Charbar	- " -		1903/4 again in 1913		Probably 1904. Again 1914
Abadan	(under Mesopotamian administration)	1920 under Bushire	1917		1925
Ahwaz	- " -	" - "	1915		1892
Maidan-i-Naphtun	- " -	In 1925 Masjed e Soleyman as Persian PO	1918		1925
Mirjawa (Eastern Persia)		Opened in 1921. No recorded mail. Transit "endorsed" mail recorded. Probably exchange office in 1930s			

Indian Post Office: Opened simultaneously with Muscat in 1864. The first two Indian POs in the Gulf. Mail from before 1866 not recorded. Under the Bombay circle. Between 1868-78 under the Karachi. Then to Bombay again.
Persian Post Office: Opened in 1878 as both regular and exchange POs in conjunction with the Indo-Persian postal exchange agreement of 1877 following the UPU principles.

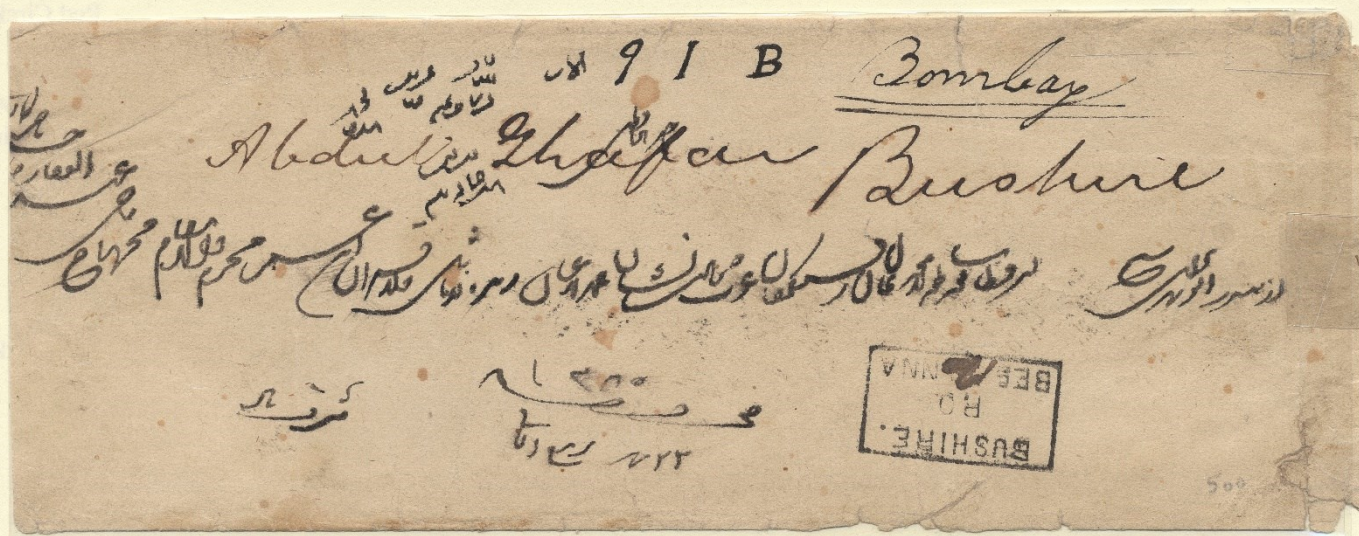
Dutch ppc depicting Bushire. Sent from Bushire to Germany in 1903



Rates: 1 anna

Routes: Bushire ??/03 via Bombay, Sea Post Office 4 AP/03 to Breda, Holland, 18 APR /03

Framed rectangular "BUSHIRE./P.O./BEG." with serifs. Printed values or in m/s
"12" endorsed in 12 ANNA



Rates: 12 anna

Routes: Bushire 21 AU 1868 (H 1285) to Bombay. No arrival marking

Markings: Departure mark 21mm with no year slug. At back

II. Indian POs & their
Persian counterparts

Bushire

Incoming

Bushire incoming
mail

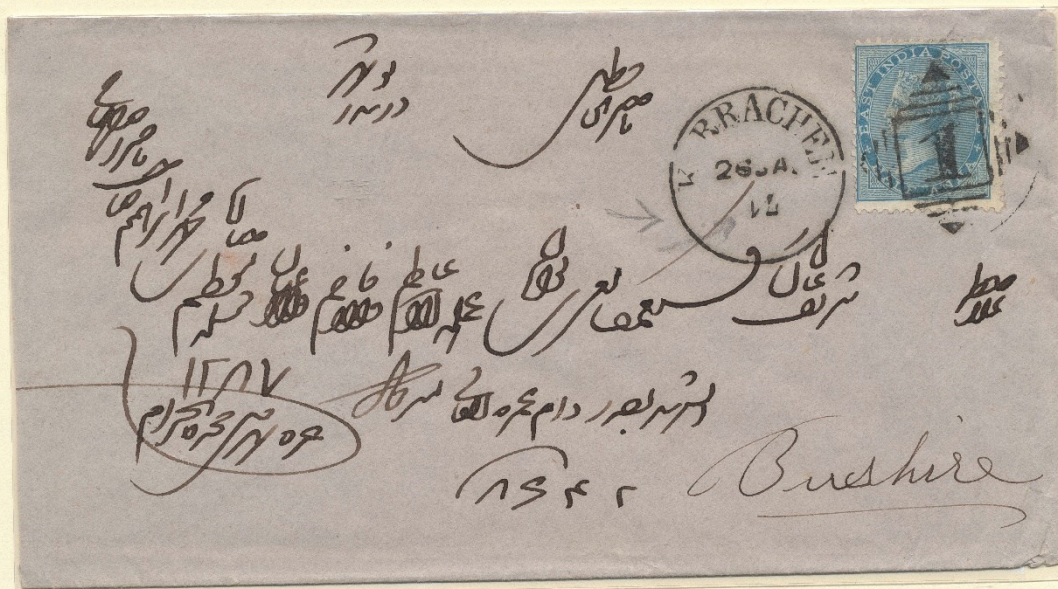
***Early incoming mail to Bushire during 1866 - 68. Arrival postmark not yet introduced. Also mail up
till 1873 did not always get a Bushire arrival mark either. Why some got it and some not is not clear**



Rates:
1 anna

Routes:
Kurrachee
(i e Karachi)
20 Oct 1867
to Bushire

Markings:
Duplex # 29
was
designated
Kurrachee.

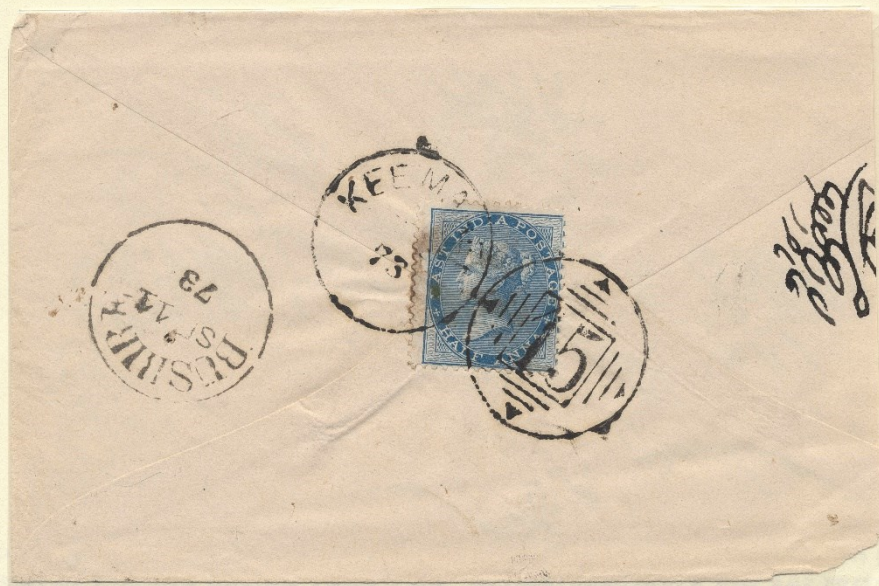


Rates:
½ anna

Routes:
Kurrachi
(i e Karachi)
26 JA 1871
to Bushire

Markings:
Duplex # 1
was
designated
Kurrachee

Notes:
that the
year slug
"71" is up-
side-down



Rates:
½ anna

Routes:
Keemare
(under
Kurrachee)
?? /73
to Bushire
SE 11/73

Markings:
Duplex # 15

Notes: Incoming from any other place than Bombay in the 1860s and early 1870s is elusive

Single line datestamp in black, **BUSHIER** touching the circle line, 21 mm, reappear in **red**

*The first arriving mark for incoming mail to Bushire. Seen used only in 1869 - 1870

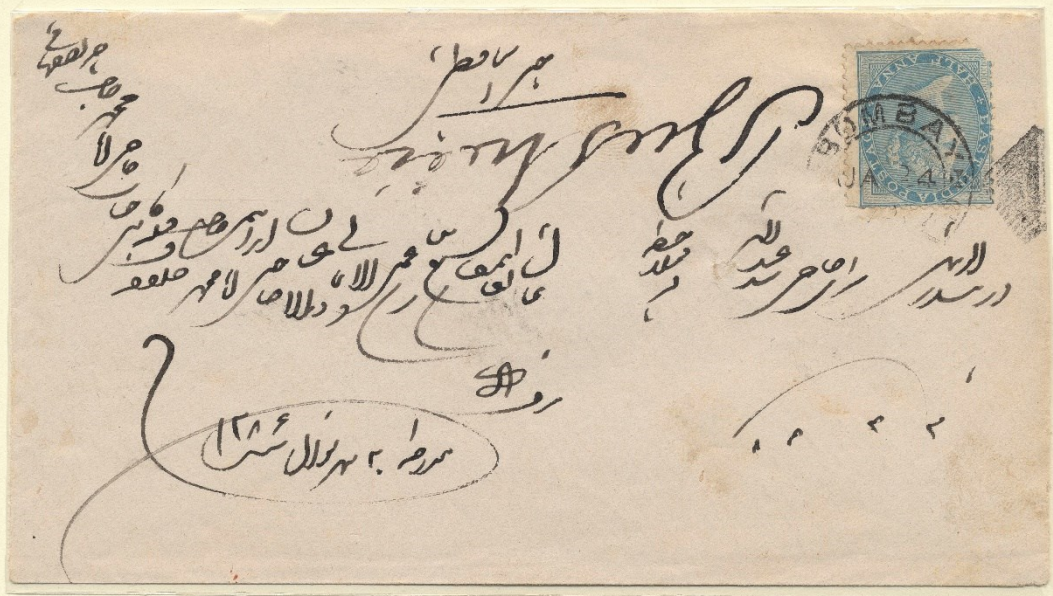
Type I: Datestamp in **red** with date, month/year sequence, like 1866 type. Elusive



Rates: ½ anna

Routes: Bombay 1 NO 1869 franked ½ a to Bushir with **red** receiving mark 12 NO/69

Type II: Datestamp in **red** with month and date, Year slug missing. Like the 1866 type
Very elusive mark



Rates: 1/2a. Routes: Bombay 24 JAN 1869 (H 1286) to Bushire with **red** receiving mark FE 6
On reversal. Photocopy 100%



Single line 23 mm datestamp in **red**, **BUSHIRE** in serifs. About 1 mm from the circle line
The second arriving mark for incoming mail to Bushire. Seen used in 1870-73

Type I. month, date/year



Rates: 1 anna

Routes: Bombay JU 11/ 70 to Bushire JU 25/70

Type II. Single line 23 mm in **red** with month and date only. Year slug missing Four recorded



Rates: ½ anna

Routes: Bombay 14 NOV 70 to Bushire NO 27

Photocopy of datestamp 100%



23mm Duplex large BUSHIRE in serifs and "26" (1870-71). Letter 1871 to UK

"Bushire 5th Nov 1871" in m/s across the stamps. On reverse a Bombay transit Nov 18.
Arrived Spilsby, England Dec 17, 1871. #26 designated Bushire. Rates: 6as for UK up to 1oz



Duplex mark, BUSHIRE in serifs on top of circle and "308" in 14 bars (1868-1870) on Service letter

Official cover with in total 8as (some on reverse), but insufficiently paid, Thus a rectangular bearing marking
"BUSHIRE/P.O./B.E.G. 6 ANNA". Postage stamps overprinted "Service"



Routes: From Bushire Health Authorities March 1870 to Bombay April 9, 1870. Damaged

**II. Indian POs & their
Persian counterparts**

Bushire
Incoming

**Bushire incoming
postmarks & rates**

23mm single line datestamp in red, BUSHIRE in serifs. Less than 1 mm from the circle line

Almost similar to the second arriving mark (in red) for incoming mail to Bushire. Seen used in 1871-73

Red:
date, month/
year

Very elusive

Rates:

2 as

Routes:

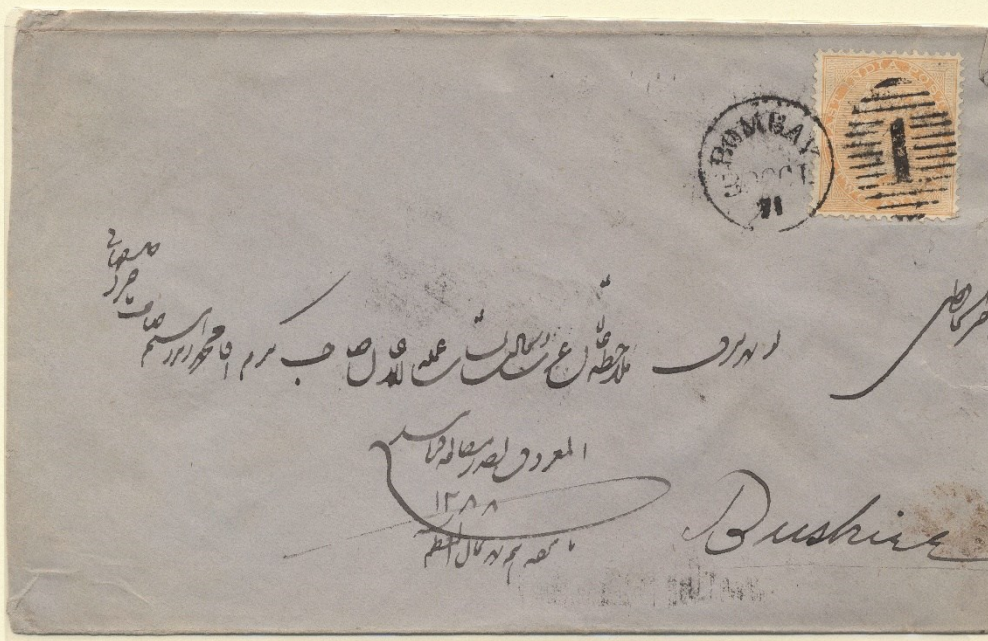
Bombay

30 OCT/71

to

Bushire

12 NO/71



Red:
month, date/
year

Rates:

½ anna

Routes:

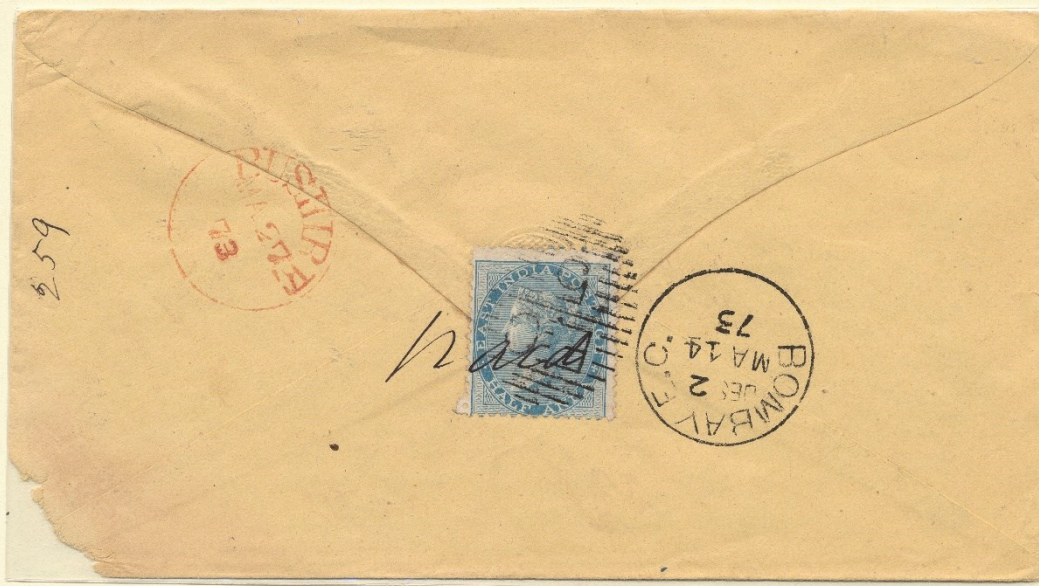
Bombay

MA 14 73

to

Bushire

MA 27/73



During 1873 the color was changed to black

Black:
month, date/
year

Rates:

½ anna

Routes:

Bombay

18 JUN/73

to

Bushire

JL 9/73



II. Indian POs & their
Persian counterparts

Bushire
Incoming

Bushire incoming
postmarks & rates

Single line 24 mm datestamp in black, BUSHIRE in serifs. About 1 mm from the circle line

Similar to the second arriving mark (in red) for incoming mail to Bushire. Seen used in 1872-73

Type I. month,date/year



Rates: 1 anna

Routes: Bombay 2 JUL/73 to Bushire JL 15/73

Type I. date.month/year. Very elusive



Rates: 1 anna

Routes: Bombay 23 May/73 to Bushire 5 JU/73

Registered letter. Duplex "BASHIR" and K-5. Type II. Large letters in registration box

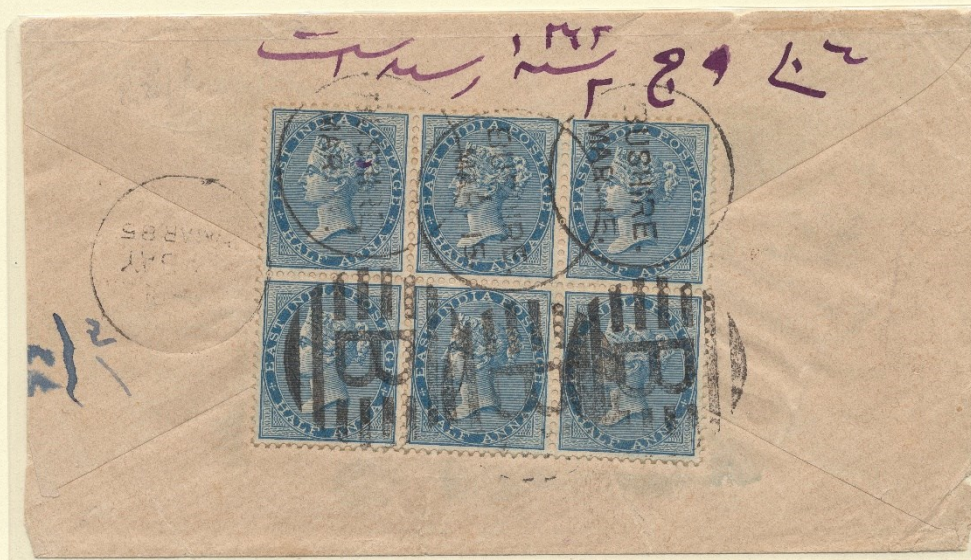


Rates: 2as. **Registration fee:** 4as

Routes: Bushire 25 July 1878 to Bombay 9 Aug 1878

Markings: Rectangular registration box with large letters. Place, reg. number, weight and date are all in m/s in the box

"BUSHIRE" circular date stamp 24mm with "B" in circled bars also 24mm in diameter



Rates: 3as

Routes: Bushire Mar 15 185 (H 1302 in m/s) to Bombay

Notes: six-block elusive

"BASHIR" circular date stamp and K-5 as duplex

Although Bushire was again under the Bombay Circle, K-5 continued to be used. Postal stationery used in the Gulf very elusive



Rates: ½ anna

Routes: Bushire 8 May 1882 to Bombay 22 May

Insured letter. Type II: Large letters in registration box

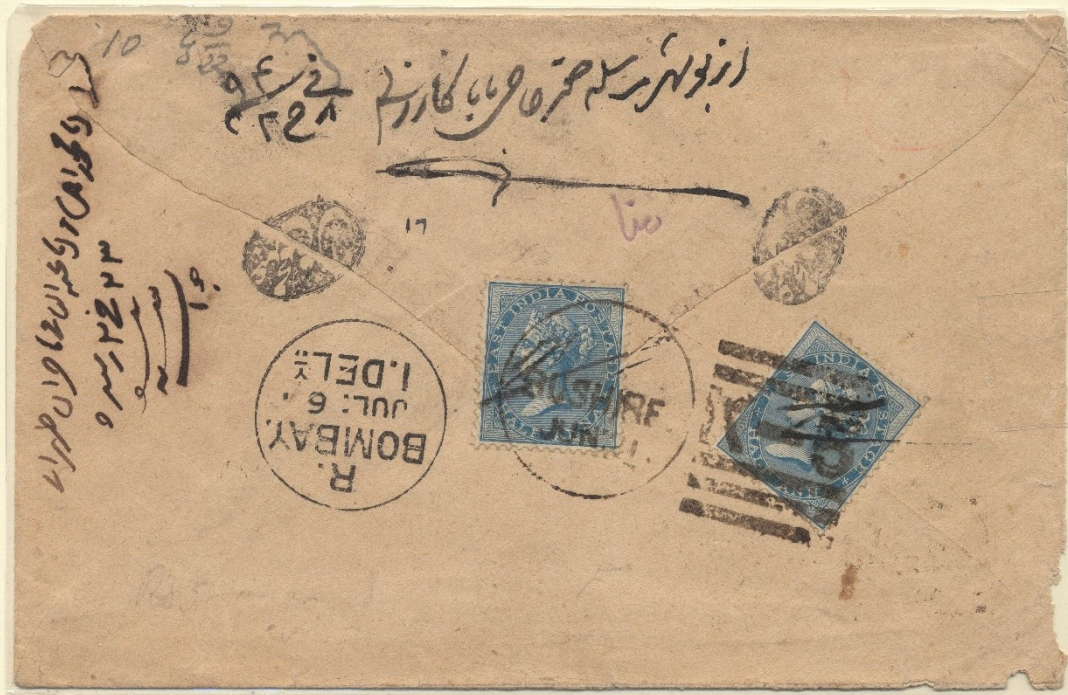


100% size

Rates: ½ anna. As 8as rate is very high and due to the red lack seal insurance is probably included

Routes: Bushire 10 October 1881 to Bombay 21 October.

"BUSHIRE" circular date stamp 25mm with K-5 (ab1873-79) **in duplex**
Under Sind, Karachi 1868-78. "K" for Karachi. Nr "5" stands for Bushire sub-office to Karachi



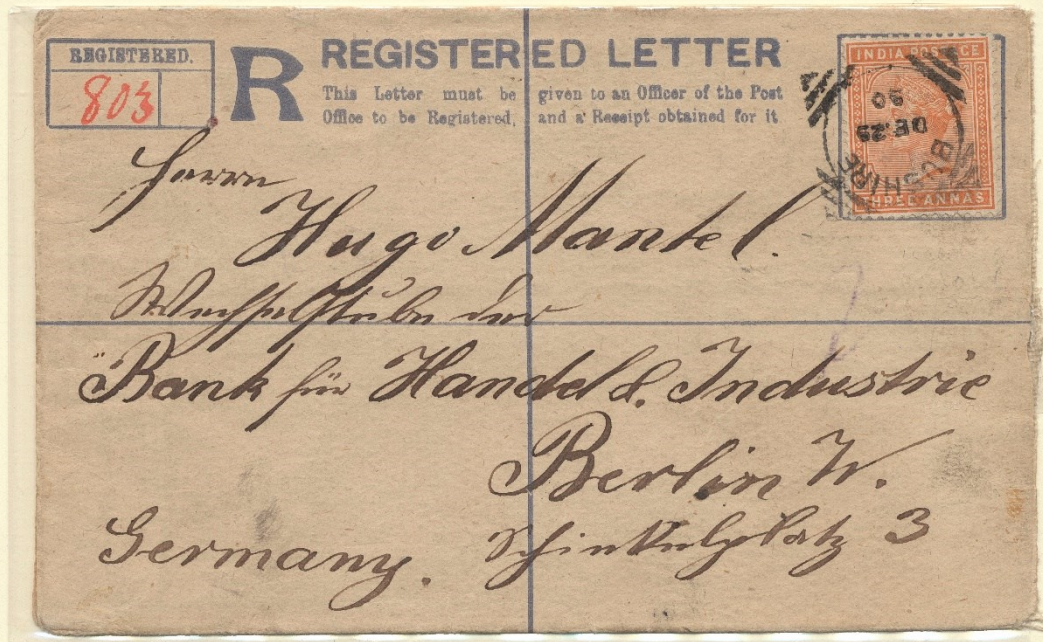
Rates: 1 anna

Routes: Bushire 21 June 1879 (H 1296) to Bombay 6 July

Markings: Bushire was under Sind, Karachi 1868. Special designated postmark "K-5" introduced ab 1873

Medium sized squared circle 18 mm with three bars. (1890-91)

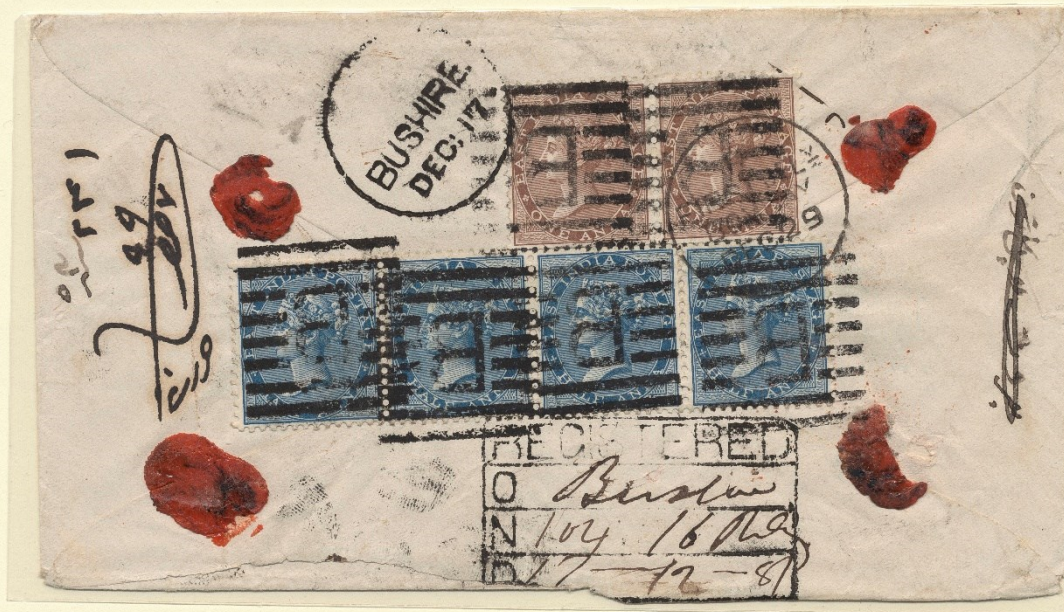
2as postal stationery with imprinted REGISTERED LETTER uprated. Very elusive usage in the Gulf



Rates: Rate 3as. **Registration fee:** 2as

Routes: Bushire 25 December 1890 to Berlin 28 January 1891. Sorted by Bombay Sea Post 10 Jan

8 bars, squared circle with "B". (About 1880-81). Type II. Large letters in registration box



Rates: 2as. Registration fee: 2as

Routes: Bushire 17 December 1881 to Bombay 29 December

Double lined circle postmark with dates in the middle (ca 1898 – 1905). Very scarce



Rates: 2as. Registration fee: 2as

Routes: Bushire 11 DE 99 to Calcutta 25 DE 1899

Notes: Large rectangular registration cachet with three boxes

"squared circle of 18 mm" with 4 thin bars. In use 1885-96

Scarce usage of postal stationery envelope



Rates: ½ anna

Routes: Bushire JY 20/88 to Bombay, delivered 21 July

Union rate 2 ½ as applied as letter addressed to Egypt, i e to abroad



Rates: 2 ½as. **Registration fee:** 2as

Routes: Bushire 31 September 1895 to Cairo 19 October via transit Bombay Sea post office 5 October and Suez 15 October 1895

Small "squared circle" cancellation, 4 bars (1885 – ab 1900)
New type of registration cachet (about 1885)



Rates: 2 ½ ch. **Registration fee.** 2as

Routes: Bushire MA 13/99 to Cologne(Köln, Germany) via Sea Post 4 4 99

Notes: Germany was showing an increased interests in the Gulf with the shipping line "Hamburg-Amerikanische Packetfahrt Aktien Gesellschaft"

Germany, registered to Bushire

Rates: 60 pfennig including registration fee

Routes: Cöln 2 2 99 via Sea Post FE 13/99 to Bushire. m/s "Nur via Brindisi und Bombay (nur = only)



Squared circle of 18 mm with 4 thin bars. (1884 – 1896)



Rates: 1 anna. **Registration fee:** 2 annas
Routes: Bushire 5 Dec 1897 to Coeln 3 Jan 1898
Markings: New type of registration cachet
Notes: P st used in the Gulf elusive

Letter sent via the Zanzibar post office, Zanzibar, 1900
Arrival cancellation 25mm circle "BUSHIRE + month, date/year (ab1895-ab1920)

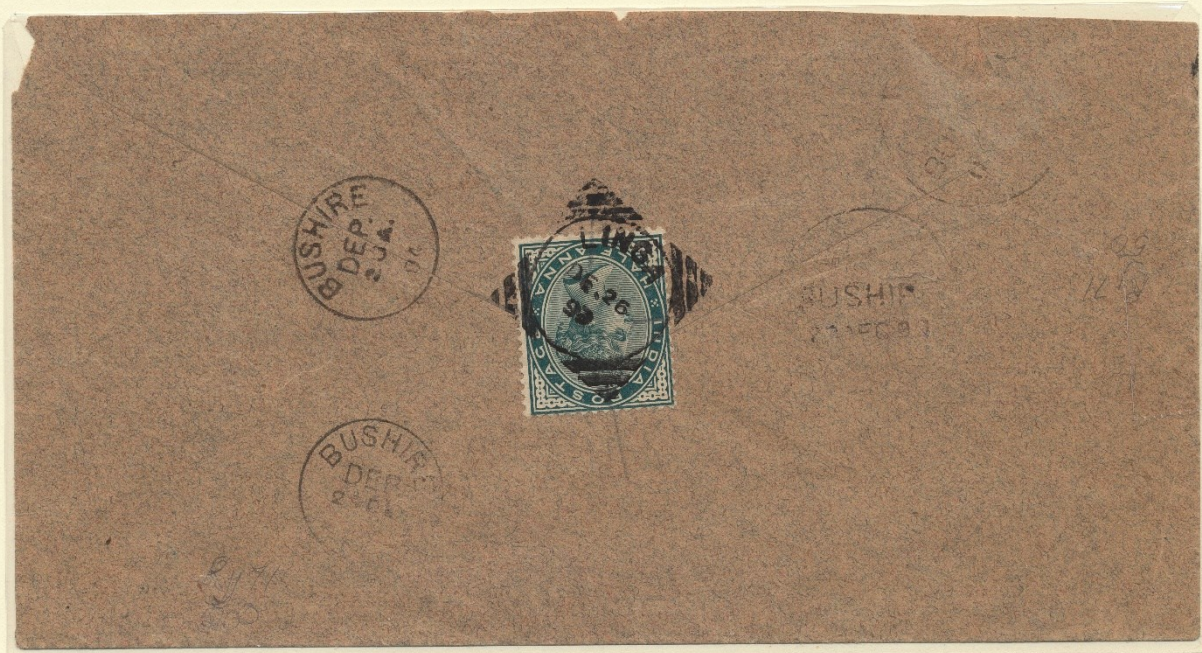
Rates: 2 ½as (Zanzibar)
Routes: Zanzibar 12 Aug 1900 via Bombay 27 Aug to Bushire 11 Sep 1900



Seal of the
German
consulate in
Zanzibar
(Photocopy
100%)



Deposit stamp (1885-1900s). Elusive
Used in the Deposit Department (safe custody pending disposal) of Head Offices
Single line circle, 20 mm, "BUSHIRE/DEP/date, month/year"



Rates: ½ anna

Routes: Linga, Persia, 26 Dec 1894 to Bushire 28 Dec.

Notes: Handed over to the Deposit Department date of arrival. Released 2 January 1895

Large squared circle with 3 bars. In use from 1892 to ab 1920. Here month, date, year. Very elusive
Both "R" and "E" broken. Normally date, month/year



Rates: 1 anna

Routes: Bushire April 6, 1902 via Bombay and Sea Post Office 19 AP. to Berlin 4/5 02

Markings: This canceller damaged during its long life time.(ab 1892 – 1920s)

"E" in Bushire later got broken and looks like an "F". And "R" even later lost a part

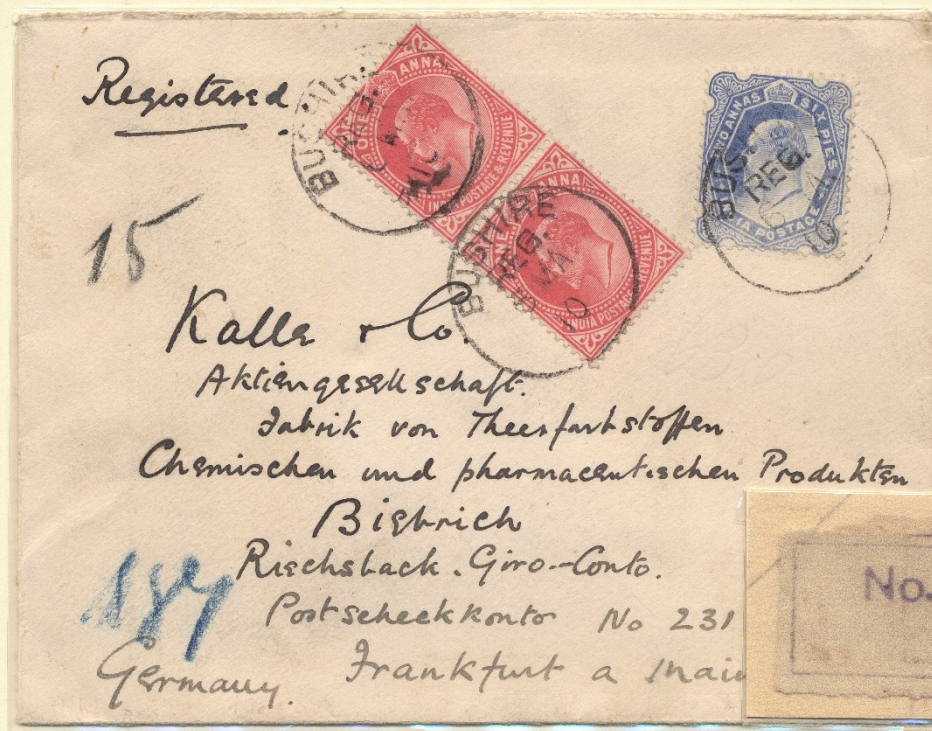
Registered letter to Mesopotamia

From Bushire to Kazamein, a holy city, in
Mesopotamia near to Kerbela in 1907



Rates: 3 ½as. Registration fee 2 as
Routes: Bushire 8 FE 1907 via Bagdad 21 FE/07
Markings: The Bushire/REG/dates postmark
The Indian Registratio rectangular cachet was
in use ab 1890 to 1905

25 mm single line circle BUSHIRE/REG/date + month/year used about 1899 - 1920
Registered letter sent 6 MA 1910 to Germany arriving 27 March. Rate 2 ½ as. Registration fee 2as



White
resgistration
label printed
single line
Oblong
Blue frame
Handstamp
R/BUSHIRE
Not reduced

Registered letter from Aden 1 July 1902 to Bushire. Arrival mark a large 27 mm circle
and large letters 7 mm high, BOUCHIRE/date/month/+ name in Persian. Photocopy 100%

Rates: 4 annas including registration

Routes: Aden JUL 1902 via Bombay to Bushire AUGUST (1902)

Markings: The large BOUCHIRE canc. French spelling, very elusive





Single line circle "Bushire/REG/ date early (1900s-1920s)
To Switzerland. Registration label with handstamp "BUSHIRE"



Rates: 2 ½ ch. **Registration fee:** 2as

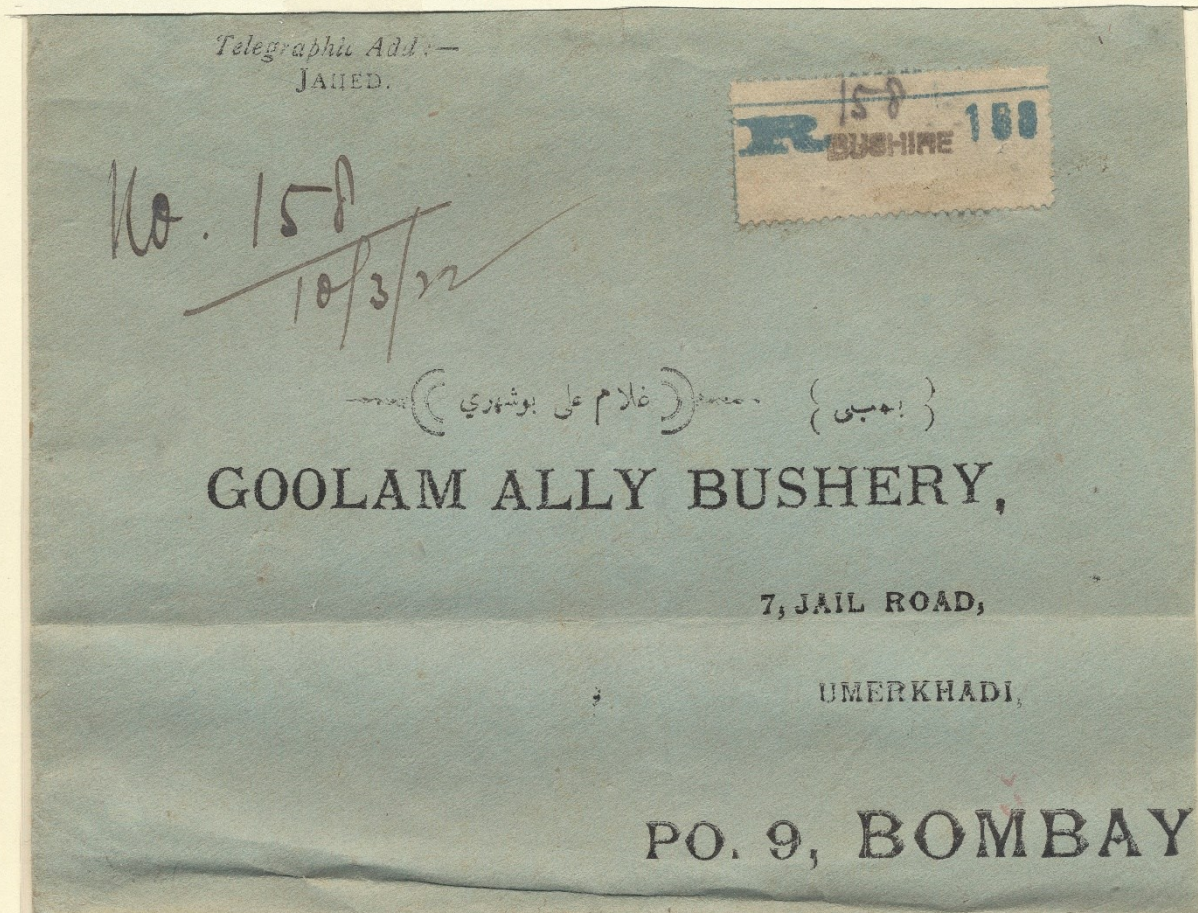
Routes: Bushire 27Dec 1915 via Bombay, Sea Post Office to Moudon 25 ! 1916

Notes: Bombay "PASSED CENSOR #30 applied. Also a large red label "OPENED BY CENSOR" applied in Bombay (at back)

Single line circle "Bushire/REG/date (early 1900s-1920s)

Rates: 2as. **Registration fee:** 4as. **Routes:** Bushire 10 MAR 22 to Bobay 18 March 1922

Notes: The registration label is of different type. As the printed #158 is smuggled the postal clerk wrote "158" above it. Also in m/s on the left



II. Indian POs & their
Persian counterparts

Bushire

Bushire postmarks
& rates

In the agreement 1903 the Indian postal authorities finally agreed to use foreign rate at the IPOs in Persia. Excluded was official mail that was free of charge

This O.H.M.S. cover was sent from Bushire 6 Jan 1921 via Bombay 22 Ja 1921 to London
12 February 1921. Very elusive usage



II. Indian POs & their
Persian counterparts

Bandar Abbas

Leased to Oman until 186

Bandar Abbas
postmarks & rates

Indian Post Office : With the approval of the local Governor an experimental post office in 1867 then under Oman rule opened. Returned to Iran 1868. Permanent P O under Bombay Circle as from July 1868. Between 1869-79 it was moved to the Sind Postal Circle, Karachi, then returned to Bombay. The P O also served as exchange post office (see C1) with Persia Bandar Abbas PO as from 1882. Closed end March 1923

Persian Post Office : Opened in 1882. The Indian and the Persian Governments agreed to interchange mail in accordance with the principles followed at Bushire with the purpose of serving the southern provinces such as Kerman and Yezd (see under C1)

A Dutch Gruss-aus ppc from Bender-Abbas from 1903 as per postmark. Rates: one anna



Experimental Post Office until July 1868. The only recorded from that period

A single lined circle with BUNDER ABBAS w/o date and year, in serif

Unpaid letter. Bearing 2as in m/s



Routes:
Bander Abbas
date unclear
to
Bombay
with arrival
cancellation
17 April 1868
Damaged

Unpaid letter - 1AN in rectangle - from Bandar Abbas to Bombay 1872. The only recorded with 1AN

A single lined circle with BUNDERABBAS in serif, month, day/year

Routes:
Bandar
Abbas
DE 4/(18)72
to Bombay
16 Dec 1872
Damaged



Duplex BUNDERABBAS/22. (ab 1870-73)
month, date/thick underline unrecorded variety. No year



Rates: ½ anna

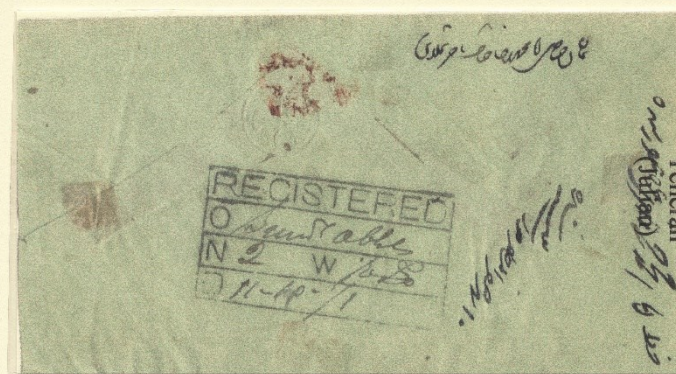
Routes: Bandar Abbas MA 24 to Muscat about 1870-73. No other marks

Notes: Year not known as sender, an Arab, would not write the date on front of the cover like Iranians would always do

Letter to Bombay 1871 with Duplex "BUNDERABBAS/22"
The first type of registration mark (1871-?). **Large** letters in REGISTERED



Rates: 1/2 anna. **Registration fee:** 4 annas
Routes: Bandar Abbas 1871 (H 1298) to Bombay



The back
Reduced to 75%

Duplex circle month + date and with K-5 used on 1/2a blue p st envelope



Rates: ½ anna

Routes: Bandar Abbas 28 Feb 1879 to Bombay

Duplex circle with date + month and K-5
REGISTERED, 41mm, with large letters. Elusive

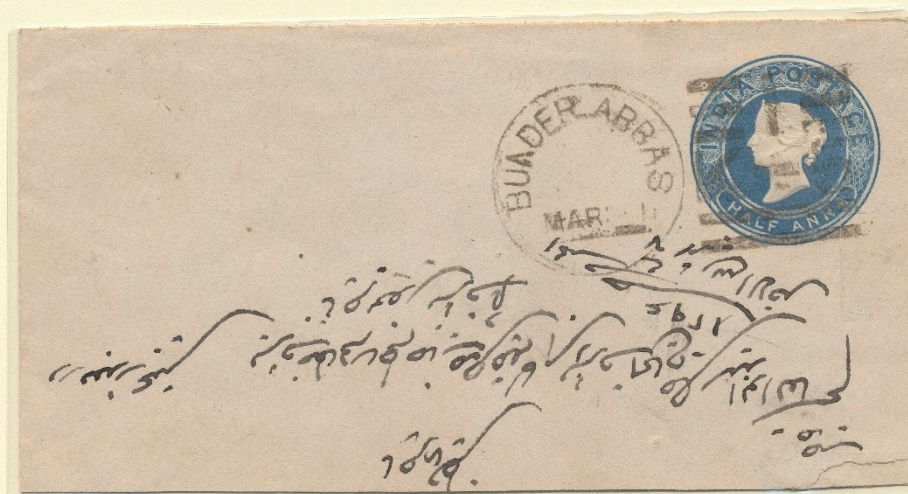


Rates: 1 anna. Registration fee: 4as

Routes: Bandar Abbas 26 Sep 1879 to Bombay 10 Oct 187

1

Duplex circle month + date and with K-5 used on 1/2a blue p st envelope



Rates: ½ anna

Routes: Bandar Abbas 28 Feb 1879 to Bombay

1

Duplex circle with date + month and K-5
REGISTERED, 41mm, with large letters. Elusive



Rates: 1 anna. Registration fee: 4as

Routes: Bandar Abbas 26 Sep 1879 to Bombay 10 Oct 187

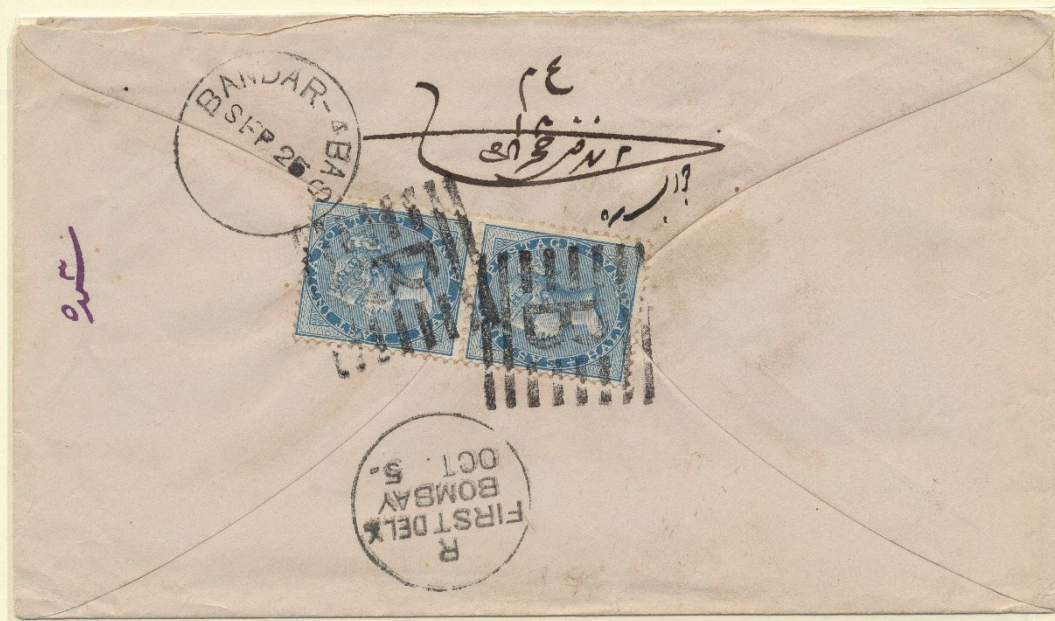
**Single straight line "BANDARABAS/month, date", 24 mm
with "B" in square with 8 lines**



Rates: ½ anna

Routes: Bandar Abbas 23 March 1882 (H 1299) to Bombay 7 April 1882

**Single line "BANDAR-ABAS" (in circle) "/month, date", 24 mm
with "B" in square with 8 lines**



Rates: 1 anna

Routes: Bandar Abbas 25 Sep 1883 (H 1300) to Bombay 5 October 1883

Small squared circle with 4 bars. Thin circle

Internal registered letter elusive. Boxed cachet with three sections, 42 mm(reduced)
Internal letter between two IPOs with content



Rates: 2 ½as. **Registration fee:** 2as

Routes: Bandar Abbas 17 Feb 1890 to Bushire (date invisible)

Markings: Registration boxed cachet with three sections (1883-1905)

Small circle 19mm Bushire/REG + month. date/year

Single straight line "BANDAR-ABAS/date, month, year", 24 mm. Previously unrecorded

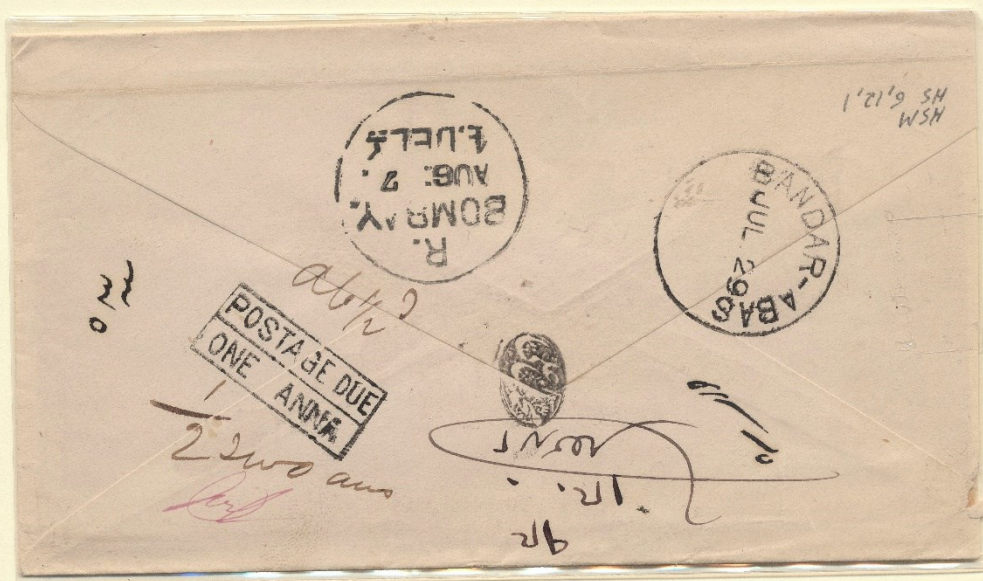


Rates: No franking. Probably some sort of official letter

Routes: Bandar Abbas 19 May 1884 (H 1301) to Bombay 27 May 1884.

Markings: A most unusual franking.

BANDAR-ABAS/JUL 29 in a circle, 24mm (ab 1883)



Rates: Bearing "ONE ANNA" (printed in rectangular boxed cachet)

Routes: Bandar Abbas 29 July 1883 (H 1300) to Bombay 7 August

Notes: POSTAGE DUE/ONE ANNA cachet & 1/2 in m/s

Postmark small type "squared circle" with 4 bars, thin circle

Registration boxed cachet with **three** sections (1883 – 1905)

Rates: 6 annas. Registration fee: 2as. All IPOs treated as inland

Routes: Domestic letter Bandar Abbas 2 Nov 1892 to Bushire



Double line circle with BANDAR-ABAS around the circumference. (ab 1908 – March 1923) used
on 2as p stat envelope to Bombay

Registration label with red handstamp for "**Bandar Abbas**". **Elusive.** Last day of opening of post office



Rates: 3as. Registration fee 2.6 (increased in 1922)

Routes: Bandar Abbas 30 March 1923 to Bombay 9 April 1923

Double line circle with BANDAR-ABAS around the circumference. Elusive registration label

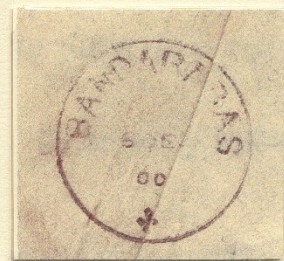
Rates: 3 ½ as. **Registration fee:** 2 as

Routes: Bandar Abbas 4 Oct 1909 to UK 22 Oct. 1909



Unrecorded departure cancel, circle "BANDARABAS + ornament"

The letter, w/o postage stamp(s), was either put in an Indian P O letter box or hand carried from the interior
Bandar Abbas "Postage Due 1 anna" cachet and with "T" thus applied & 2d I.S.A at arrival of Isle of Man



Routes: Probably from the interior due to the "T" mark sent to Bandar Abbas Indian PO and Indian EPO 6 Dec 1900 to Isle of Man
Markings: Postmarks of different sizes, with ornament, got into use in the Gulf area ab 1893. Elusive anywhere

Double lined circle postmark used on letter 1918 to London. (ab 1908 – March 1923)

Registered letter sent 23 March 1918 to London. Date unclear.
Yellow registration label. Elusive



Indian double circle 30 mm and Persian double circle 29 mm transit marks 1921



Both postmarks are **elusive**
Existed only for a short
time 1921

Also very little incoming mail
to Bandar Abbas during and
after WWI except from India
and in closed bags

A Mesopotamian red censor
"D" at the back

The photocopies: 100% size



Rates: 2 ½ annas.

Routes: Civil P O #5 in Mesopotamia, 18 March 1921 via Bandar Abbas IPO 1 April and transferred to the Persian PO 3 April and forwarded to Kerman 10 April 1921

Persian PO using a 28,5 mm circled postmark with dd/mm/yy. Internal registered

Rates: 30 chahi

Routes: Bender-Abbas 31 MA 1908 to Bushire (no arr marking). Redirected



Double circled Indian postmark used in the Gulf (ab 1908-1920s)

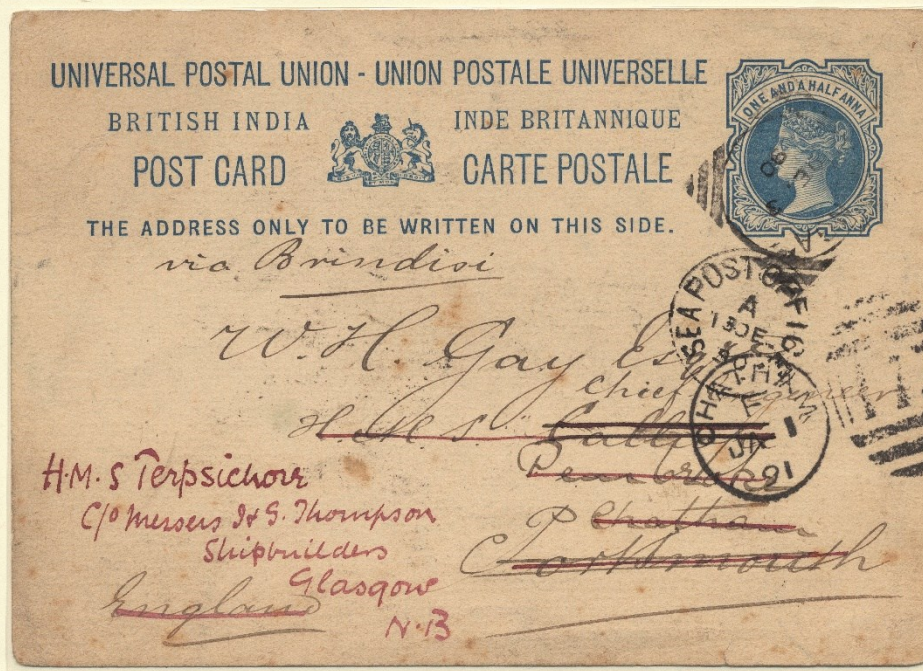
Letter to USA. Elusive destination



Rates: 3 ½as. Registration fee: 2 ½as

Routes: Bandar abbas 3 Sept 1921 to New York 10 October 1921

Semi large "squared circle" 21mm with three bars. (1883 - 1905)
1 ½a p stat post card used to England and redirected



Rates: 1 ½ anna for England
Routes: Bushire 1 12 90 (in m/s), cancelled at Linga DE 3/90, via Sea Post Office 13 DE 90 to Chatham, England, JA 1/91, redirected to Glasgow
Markings: endorsed via Brindisi

Linga single circle 20mm receiving cancellation (ca 1885-1900s)
½ anna p stat envelope



Rates: ½ anna
Routes: Bushire AU 3/1888 to Linga AU 5/88
Markings: Bushire small "squared circle"

Jask Persian PO

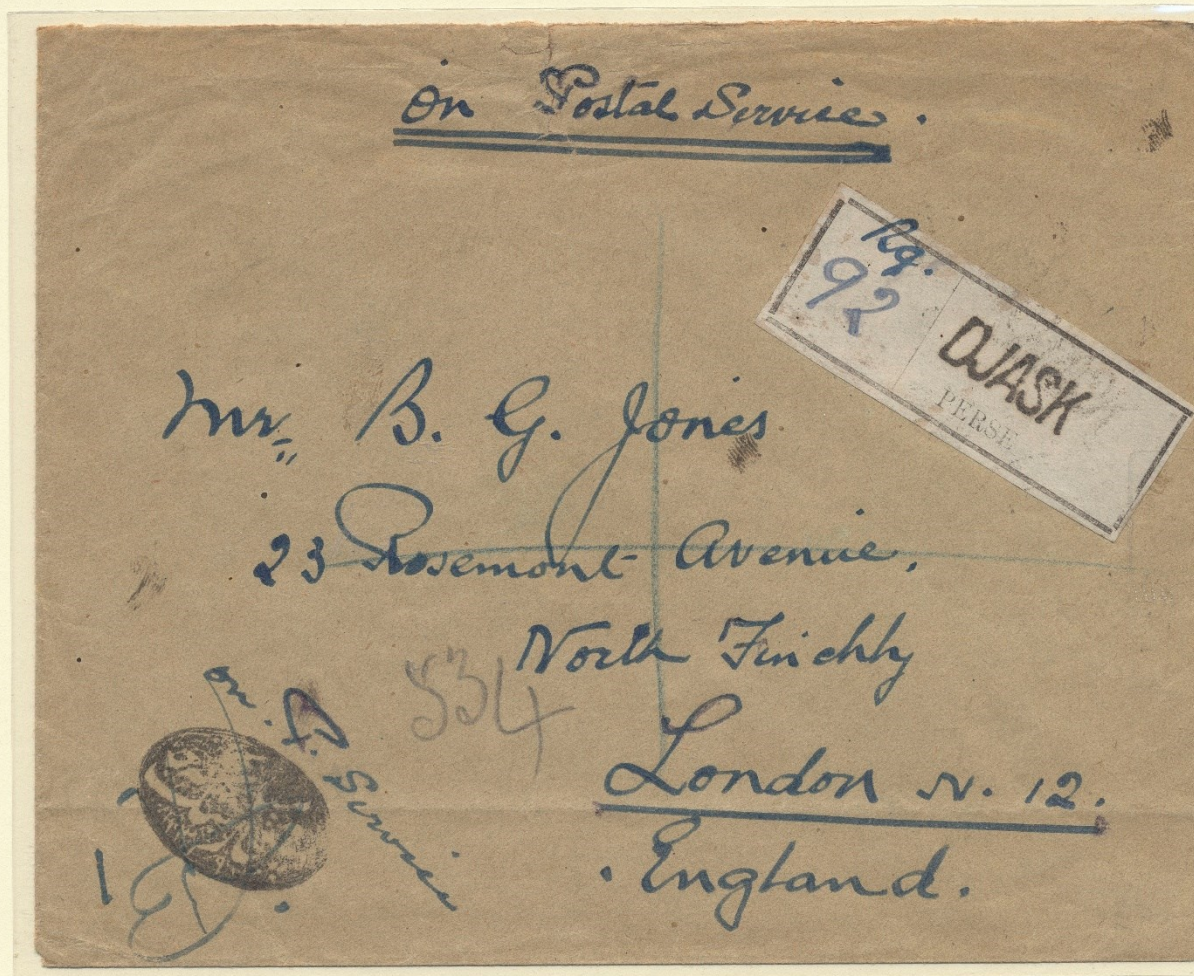
Persian post office re-opened

Jask may have re-opened in 1925 and certainly by 1926

When however, the India PO did close down as from 1st of April 1923 the agreement stated that the Persians should where appropriate open local post offices. In 1929/30 Djask became for a few years an important refilling airport for flights from Europe to India and beyond

Registered "Service" cover from Jask with m/s "on Postal Services". A black seal of the post master, similar to the violet one of the cover sent to Jask about 1904 (see under I. C.2:1.). No stamps yet in use

Only **two recorded** items with this registration label



Rates: Free of charge. On Postal Service (m/s)

Routes: Jask 16 September 1926 to London 16 October (all at back)

Indian Post Office : Opened in 1867 and closed in 1923. Sub-office to Bushire. Under Bombay circle except during 1869 – 1879 when it came under Sind (Karachi) Postal Circle between 1869 – 1879.

Persian Post Office : It is not known when it opened. The earliest known cover from Linga using the Persian PO is about 1897. Very few covers are known before 1905 indicating that this Persian post office always handled only a diminutive amount of mail due to the Indian competition. The Indian system much cheaper!

A German ppc, privately arranged, depicting the small port of Linga about 1902



Rates: 1 anna

Routes: Bushire Mai 10 ?, via Bombay and Sea Post Office MA.22/02 to Berlin

Letter to India in 1874 with Duplex "LINGA/21" (1872-75). Under Sind



Rates: 1 anna for 1 tola

Routes: Linga August 1874 (H Rajab 1291) to Bombay 4 Sept 1874

Registered letter to India in 1879 with Duplex "K-5". Date + month is elusive. Under Sind

"K" for Karachi, "5" for Bushire and "2" for sub-office (Linga) to Bushire

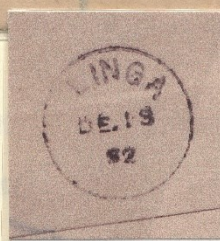


Rates: ½ anna. Registration fee: 4 annas

Routes: Linga, 23 June 1879 to Bombay 29 May

Semi-large 21mm "squared circle" (1883-1905) and 20mm circled postmark (at back). Internal letter

New type of registration cachet, 43 x 22mm w three sections (ab 1883 - 1903)



Scan 100%

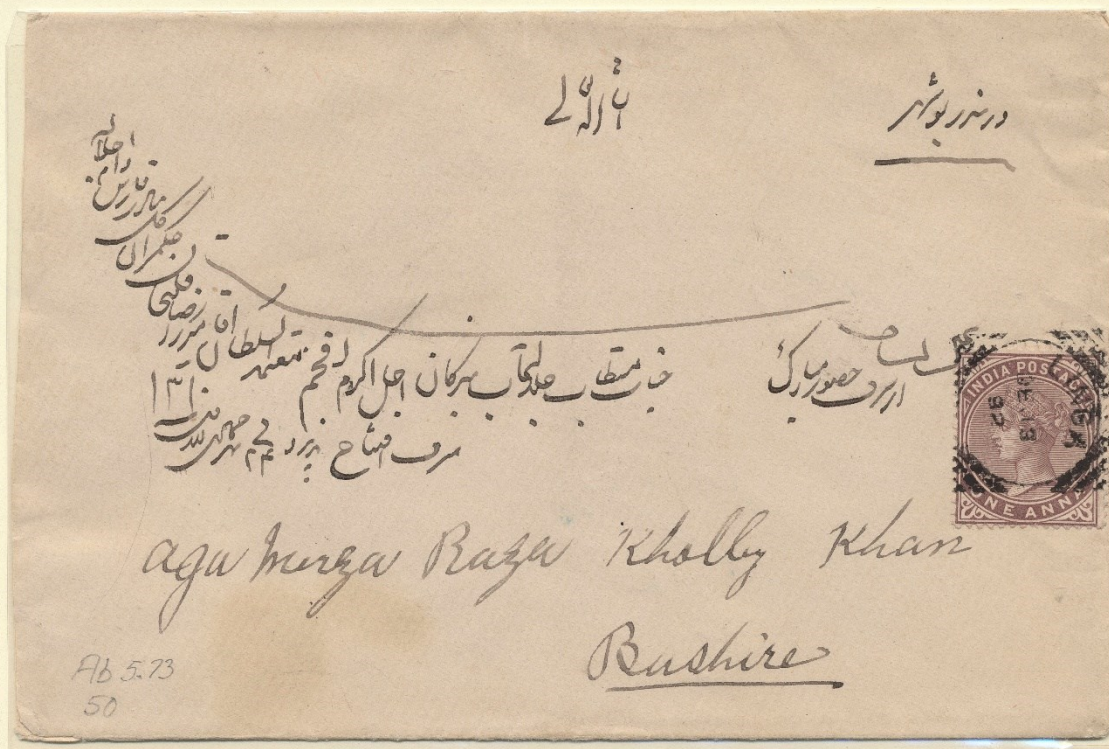
Rates: 1a, registration fee: 2as

Routes: Linga 12 December 1892 to Bombay

Markings: Departure cancellation, 20mm, of 19 December. Registration no. 902 in m/s

21mm "squared circle" (1883 - 1905) with three bars

Internal mail between Indian POs at Persian ports very elusive. This letter is addressed to the Governor



Rates: 1 anna. Double rate

Routes: Linga 13 DE 1892 to Bushire 19 Dec 1892

IMPRIME. Open envelope containg photos as per m/s to Germany 1900

Rates: 2 as 6 pies (up to 2 ½ oz = 71 grams). Routes: Linga MA 7 1900 to Cologne, Germany . Unclear marking on the back
IMPRIME from the Gulf very elusive



Double circle with dates in the middle (ca 1905 - 1920s)



Rates: 8 ½as. Registration fee: 2as
Routes: Linga 15 July 1910 to Leeds, UK

To Belgium in 1904. Elusive. Foreign rates to abroad applied since 1903

Rates: 2 as 6 pies
Routes: Linga 14 July 1904 via Sea Post 22 July to Brussel. Redirected within Brussel
Markings: The 253 in small circle is Belgian and used by the postman as delivery mark

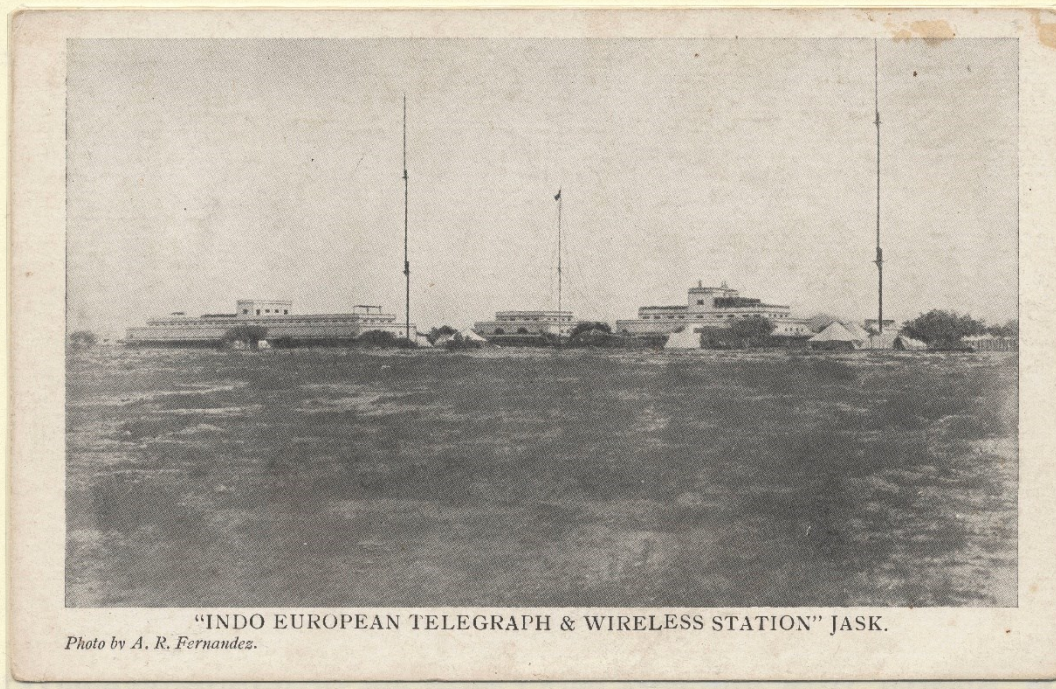


Under Sind, Karachi

Indian Post Office: Opened 1st September 1880. Closed 1923. Under the Indian Sind (Karachi) postal circle. Only small amount of mail in connection with the employees of the Indo-European Telegraph Station and some Indian soldiers. The postal services were charged to the Telegraph Station. This post office had no registration status. Steamers called at Jask fort-nightly about 1905.

Persian Post Office: Opened in 1902/3 for a very **short** period by support of the Belgian administrators for political reasons. Local fishing population very small and illiterate. Only **one** cover **recorded** during Qajar reign. (see part I).

Ppc depicting Jask and the Indo-European Telegraph & Wireless Station



"INDO EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH & WIRELESS STATION" JASK.

Photo by A. R. Fernandez.

Letter to Bombay

"squared" circle with three bars + single line circle, 25 mm. JASK/dd/mm/yy used as departure mark



Rates: 1 anna

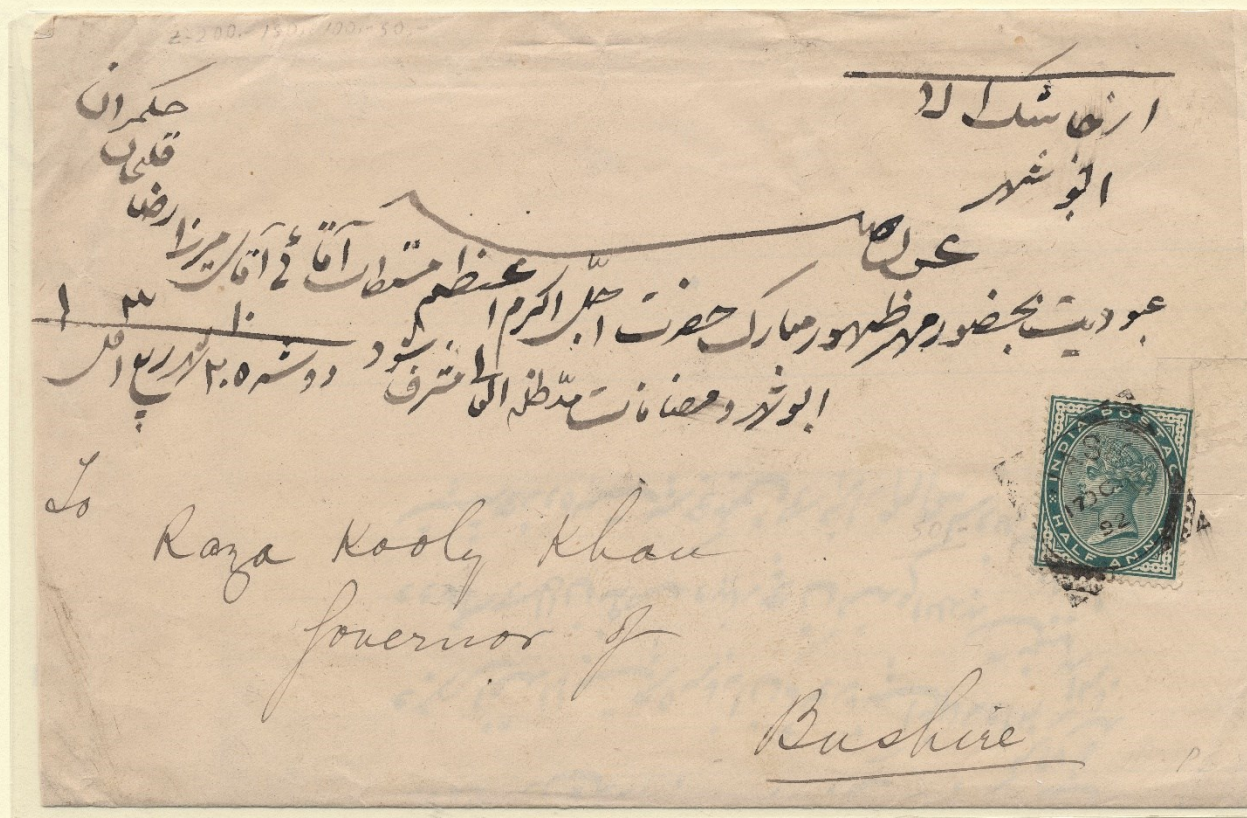
Routes: Jask 8 April 1900 to Bombay 15 April

Under Sind, Karachi

Internal letter from Jask to the Governor of Bushire province 1892

"squared" circle with three bars + single line circle, 25 mm. JASK/dd/mm/yy used as
departure mark (at back)

Internal mail between Indian POs at Persian ports very elusive



Scan size 100%

Rates: ½ anna

Routes: Jask IPO 17 October 1892 to Bushire 21 October 1892

Single line circle JASK/mm/dd/yy, 25 mm, used for both incoming and outgoing mail
Incoming mail elusive



Rates: 10 French centimes

Routes: France 12 September 1896. Sea Post Office 27 September via Bombay to Jask 8 October.

Telegram letter sent from Jask to Muscat

Single line circle JASK/mm/dd/yy used here for outgoing mail

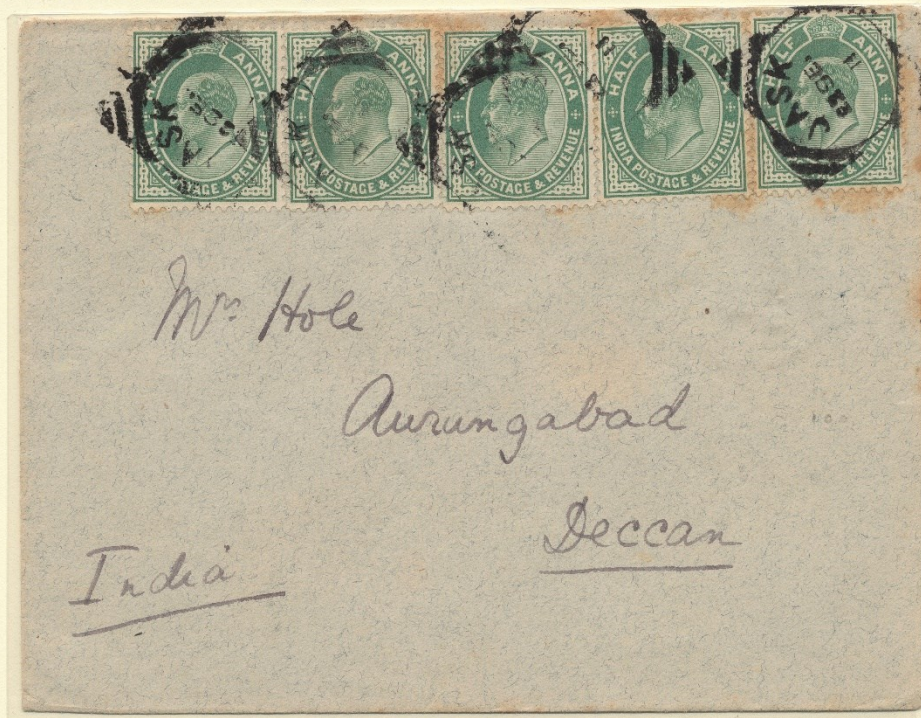


Rates: Free of charge

Routes: Jask 3 November 1893 to Muscat 4 November. Not via Bombay

Markings: 26mm circle w ornament used as receiving mark at Muscat

Squared circle with three bars + single line circle "Jask/dd. month. year. (at reversal)

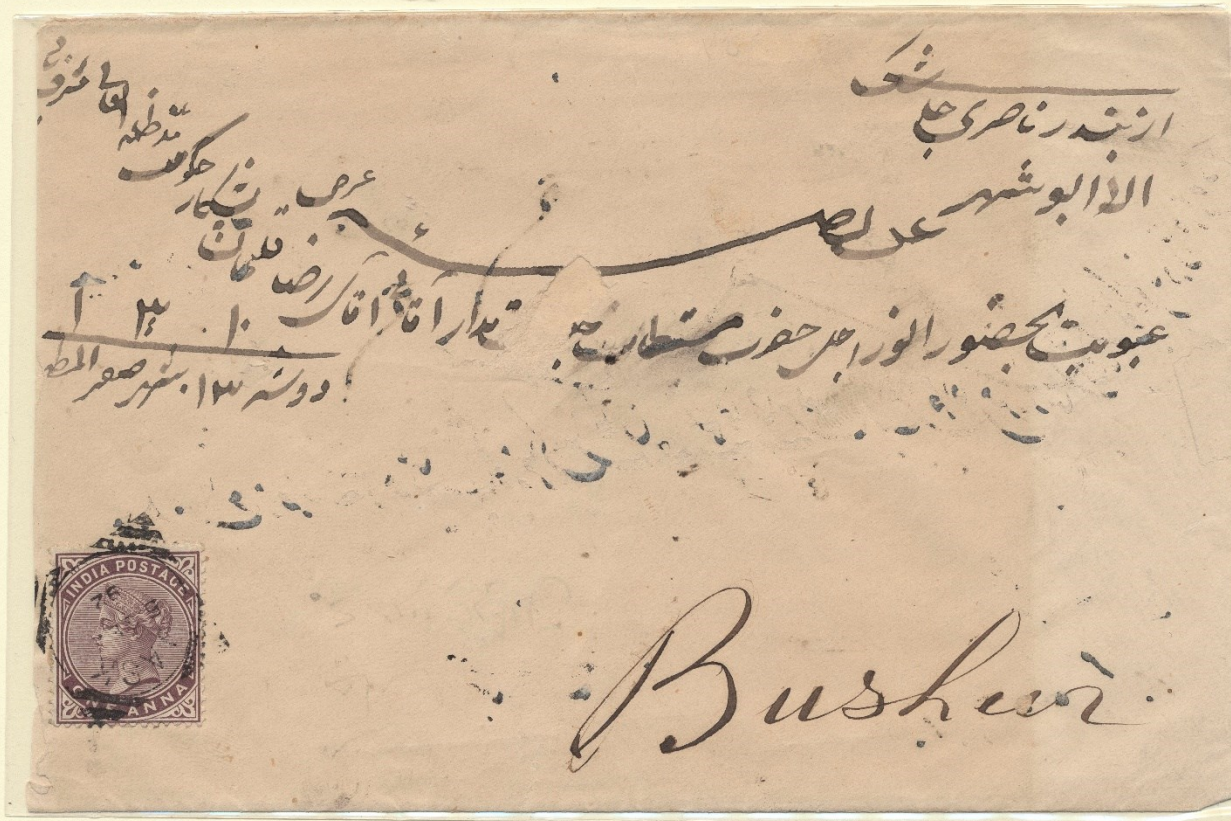


Rates: 2 ½as (foreign rate)

Routes: Jask 22 Sep 1911 to Aurungabad, India 30 Sep 1911 (at back)

Squared circle with three bars + single line circle "JASK/dd.month.year

Internal mail between Indian POs at Persian ports elusive. This letter is addressed to the Governor of Bushire



Rates: 1 anna. double rate

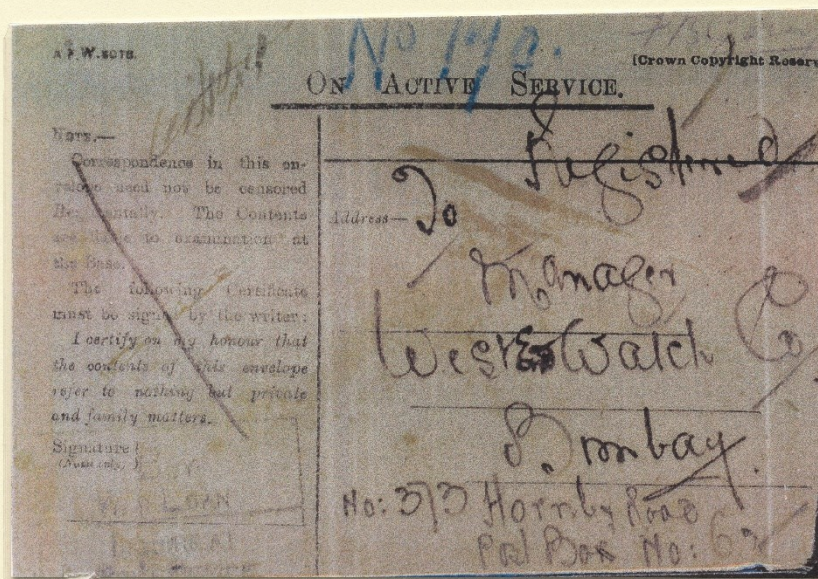
Routes: Jask 5 Sep 1892 to Bushire 9 Sep 1892

Markings: Single circle line, 24mm, BUSHIRE/date month year

On Active Service. Registered letter 1918

31mm double circled JASK/PERSIAN GULF/ + B.O./date in inner circle

Postage free of charge. Registration had to be paid for. As Jask PO did not have registration status only the postage stamps would tell the Indian post office in the port of calling for the ship likely to be Karachi



Picture of the front. Reduced to 75%



Rates: Free of charge. **Registration fee:** 2as

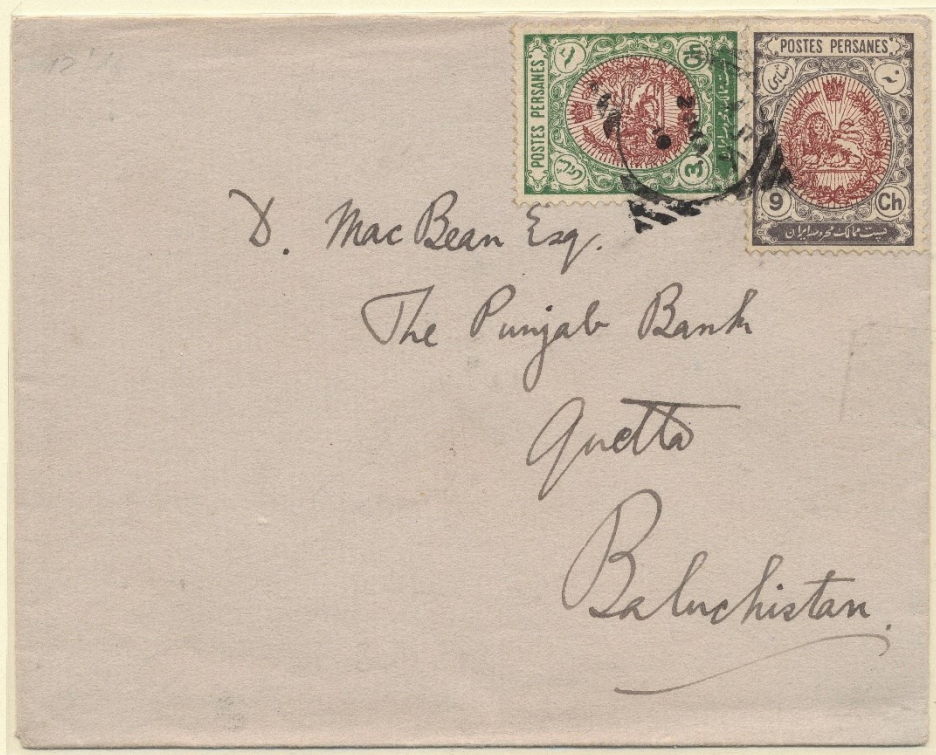
Routes: Jask 29 ? 1918 to Bombay

Markings: Reg. label reads "PERSIAN GULF DT". Half the label torn. Special propaganda stamp "Buy War Loan/Insure at Post Office

Notes: Special designed envelope used

***Jask Indian PO accepted Persian mail. Probably CTO**

A few covers with Persian stamps recorded cancelled by the Indian PO. No Persian PO existed then in Jask. Probably private arrangement

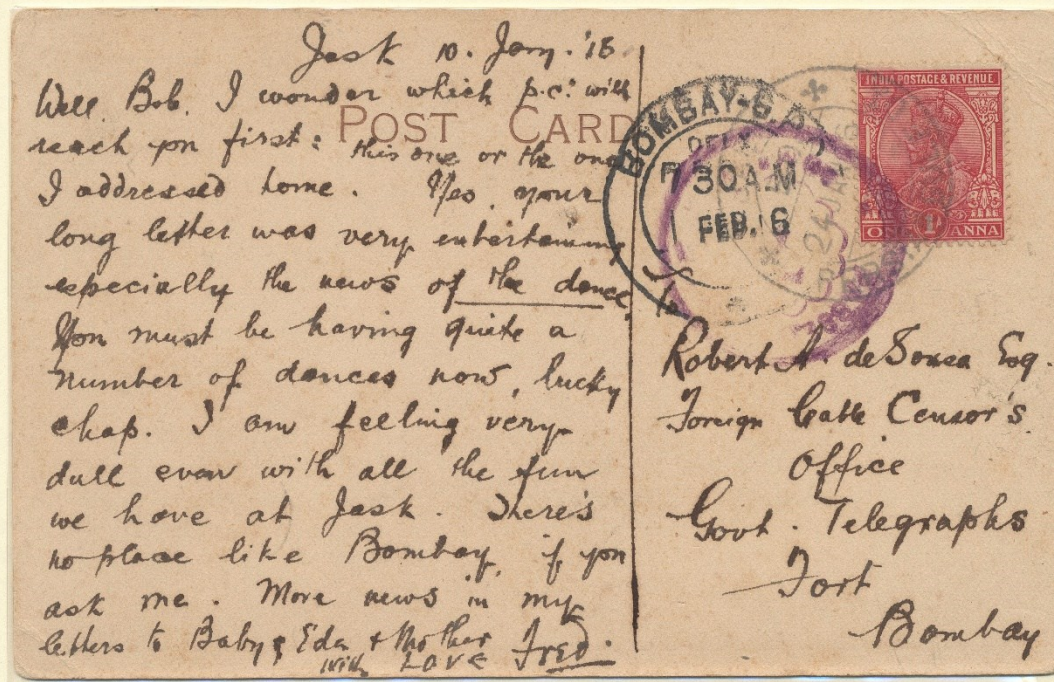


Rates: 12 chahis. Underpaid by one chahi

Routes: Jask IPO 2 MAR 1910, sent 8 MAR 1910 to Quetta, Baluchistan 21 MA 10

31mm double circled JASK/PERSIAN GULF + B.O., /date in inner circle. Very elusive usage

Censured in Bombay with large violet mark



Rates: 1 anna for post cards

Routes: Jask 24 JAN 1916 to Bombay 16 FEB 1916

***Notes:** As per agreement no mail from the Indian POs was allowed to be cancelled by a Persian PO and vice versa. Mail put in the wrong postbox should be handed over to the other postal authority

II. Indian POs & their
Persian counterparts

Mohammerah

Mohammerah
postmarks & rates

Indian Post Office : Opened 1st of July 1892 as a sub-office to Bushire, transit and exchange office (see C1). Closed in March 1923. Main Indian PO in this part of Persia. (also called Arabistan.) Came under Mesopotamian administration in 1915 during WWI.

Persian Post Office : Also opened in 1892. Insignificant amount of mail as the IPO had much cheaper rates.

Letter transited in 1892 via Mohammerah Indian PO to Bushire Indian PO to Bushire. Very early



Rates: 1 ½ anna

Routes: Basra, Mesopotamia, via Mohammerah 17 Dec 1892 to Bushire December 1892

Markings: Mohammerah transit cancellation – with an ornament at bottom (1892 – ab 1900). With m+d/y

IPO Three-bars “MAHOMMERA” + Registration mark “R/MOHAMMERA” to Ottoman Tunis. Rare usage



Rates: 2 ½ as Registration fee: 2as

Routes: Mohammerah 13 April 1904 via Sea Post Office to Tunis 10 May 1904

Markings: Large square circle with three bars spelt “MOHAMMERA”

Three-bars + registration cachet "R/MAHOMERA" (note: spelling). Rare usage



Rates: 3as. Registration fee: 2as

Routes: Mohammerah 9 June 1900 via Bombay as per m/s to London 9 July 1900

25mm circle w. ornament used as departure mark on registered letter to Bombay in 1914



Rates: 2as. Registration fee: 2 1/2as

Routes: Mohammerah 2 May 1914 to Bombay 9 May 1914

Markings: The ornament type rarely seen here with d+m/y

Double circle with barred segments. Used from 1905

Official **O.H.M.S.** overprint on one-anna postal stationery envelope up-rated to 2½as, the single rate to UK



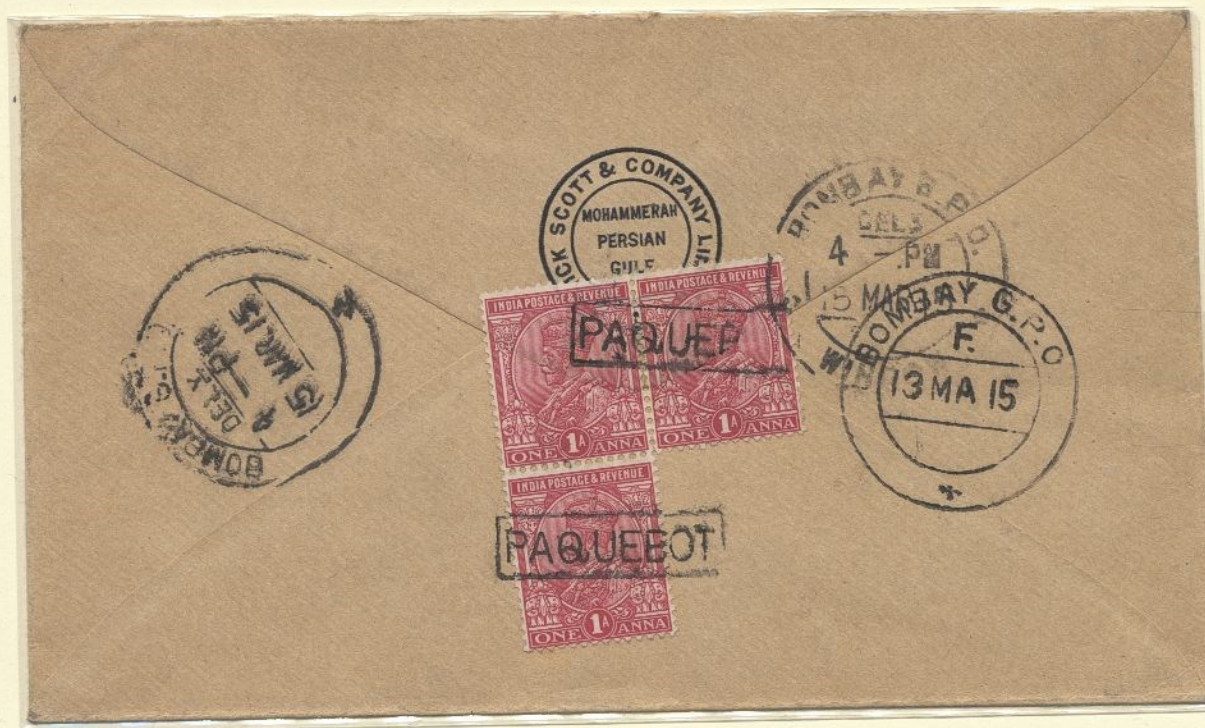
Rates: 2 ½as to UK

Routes: Mohammerah 21 May 1910 to London 11 June (at back), via Bombay

PAQUEBOT

Mail posted on private ship to Bombay arriving 13 March 1915

PAQUEBOT, 30x8 mm, (1898 -) applied across the three stamps. A "PASSED CENSOR./BOMBAY applied on front



Rates: 3 annas

Notes: The sender was using envelopes from Strick Scott & Company Line, Mohammerah/Persian Gulf
Mr Strick was a very successful shipowner serving and trading the Mediterranean and Persian Gulf at the turn of the century

Postmark Double Circle with no killer. "Registered" in red manuscript



Rates: 2 1/2as. Registration fee: 2as

Routes: Mohammerah 25 May 1920 to London 22 June 1920

Notes: 4 x 1/2as stamps on reversal

Obliterator *OFFICIAL PAID/MOHAMMERAH

Obliterator applied at Mohammerah IPO for transiting Persian mail to Mesopotamia. Seen used between 1916 and 1921
Until now no known explanation is recorded as to why this obliterator was applied. Five recorded

Registered OHMS cover sent by the British Vice-Consulate at Hamadan (red seal) on 25 May 1916 during the Russian occupation between Dec 1915 and Aug 1916. A Russian rectangular Hamadan censor mark applied on the front.

Double rate: 24 chahis. **Registration fee:** 12 ch. Addressed to Basra where a military cancel "Base Office" was applied



II. Indian POs & their Persian counterparts

Mohammerah

Persian PO. Rates & routes

The Lynch route

O.H.M.S. letter from British Consulate, registered, to the British ambassador in Teheran
Unrecorded registration violet handstamp

The Lynch route was opened in 1896. When the Bushire-Shiras route was interrupted at the beginning of WWI the Lynch route became the main route to Teheran from Muhammerah via Ahwaz and Isfahan



Consulate wax seal 100%



Registration mark 100%



Not recorded by Shaida

Rates: 9 ch 2nd weight class. **Reg fee:** 12 ch

Routes: The Lynch route

Muhammerah 5 V 17, Bandar Nasseri (Ahwaz) 9 V 17

Arriving Teheran 29 V 1917 (backstamped)

Notes: The overprint 1333 on the 1-kran stamp

Incoming to Mohammerah IPO



From Denmark

Routes: from
Denmark
21 April 1910
to Mohammerah
16 June 1910
(via Bombay)

Markings: Postmark used for incoming mail.
A single line circle, 27mm, seen used 1910 -18

Persian Post Office

Registered letter.
Rectangular box
MOHAMMARAH

Routes:
Muhammerah
8 V 1922
to Karachi
? May 1922

Rates:
BENADERS
2x1Kr
Sender paid
only the
nominal value
24ch as Persia
refused to
follow the
recommendat-
ions by UPU
of increasing
the rates as
long as the
Indian POs
did not increase
their rates!



Indian post office : opened between 20th August 1913 and 31 March 1923. Very little mail handled by this office as not many commercial items are recorded. In addition some pilots made stop overs at Chahbar during journeys from England to Australia or the Far East in 1920 and 1922 and took along from Chahbar some inauguration airmail.

Persian post Office : Both the India and the Persian postal authorities state that a Persian post office did open in 1902. One item only recorded (see section "E"). However it was soon closed down but possibly reopened 1913.

Chahbar departure mark



O.H.M.S.
letter sent
26 Dec 1916
to an
officer at
the Mekran
Border
Commission

Rates: Free
of charge

Chahbar transit mark. Bluish colour
(note: Henjam transit mark also blue)



Rates: 1/2a

**Transit
mark**
Few
recorded

Routes:
Karachi
to
Capt Holson
at Punjgur,
redirected to
Mekran
Border
Mission via
Chahbar

Situation : a small port situated about 160 km west of Guadar on the Mekran Coast near the border of Pakistan of today.
It has owed allegiance to Oman since about 1783.

Chahbar postmarks & rates

Precursory flight England – Australia March 1920

As from 1918 a number of flights from England went to Karachi and beyond via Chahbar or Bandar Abbas



**First ever
landing at
Chahbar
7 March
1920**

Pilot
G Linton
landed to
refill.
A few India
1-anna cards
were sent
7 March
to Karachi
arriving
same day

Markings: India PO mark of Chahbar in violet

Persian Post Office Probably reopened about 1913

This is the **earliest mail** recorded from Chahbar Persian PO in 1917. Only one more – but later – recorded during Qajar time



Rates; 5 chahi

Routes: Chahbar 29 III 1917, and most probably via Bombay to Scotland (no markings)

Markings: Read "BANDAR-eCHAHBAHAR" and also in Persian. The only known type during Qajar

Notes: The content reads “...about 200 specimens – animals, birds, insects, etc for the Bombay National society”

Notes: In April/May 1904 the Persian Government approved of a – shortlived - **temporary Indian** postal service between Bandar Abbas and Henjam until the establishment of a Persian P O in August 1904. Both Post Offices seem soon to have closed. No mail is recorded from this short period.

Indian post office: Opened for a short period in 1904. Reopened in early 1914. Closed end March 1923. Very little mail handled from/via Henjam as only about ten covers/cards are recorded.

***Persian post office:** At least by 1928, five years after the closure of the IPO, a post office had been established. One, a 1928, cover recorded. However, already in 1904 a post office was established for a very short time. See above.

The earliest recorded item from Henjam. April 1914



Rates: 1 anna: **Routes:** Henjam 26 AP 1914 to Salay, India 4 May 14



Rates: 2 1/2as

Routes:
Henjam
11 Sep 1918
to UK via
Bombay

Markings:
Bombay
censur
mark no 4

A Bombay
huge censor
label OPENED
BY CENSOR
at reversal

Further notes: Due to the presence of the Indo-European telegraph station the Belgian Director for Customs and Postal Services at Bandar Abbas established a Persian customs post and postal services in 1904 and demanded exclusivity and requested that the British (Indian) bags sent by it to and from Henjam should be unsealed, However, no mail yet recorded.

**II. Indian & Persian
POs in Persia littoral**

Henjam

Henjam postmark
& rates

On Active Service WWI
Soldier stationed either in Henjam or in the vicinity

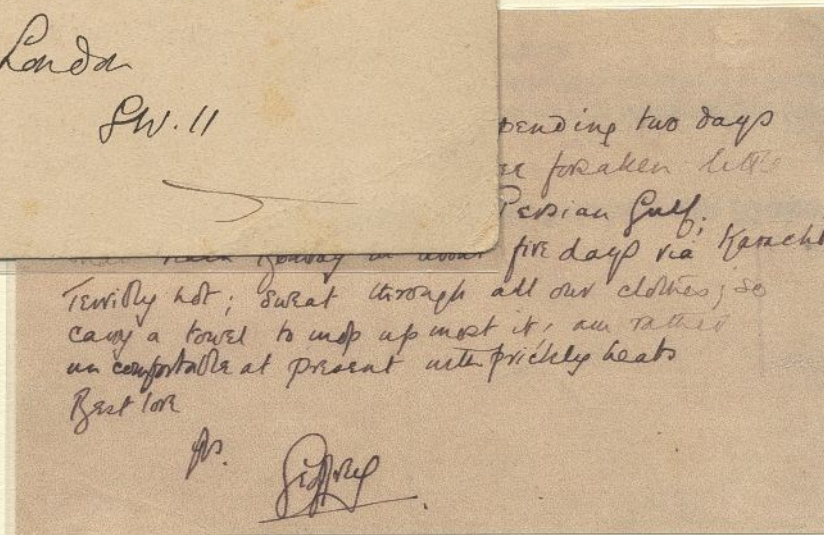
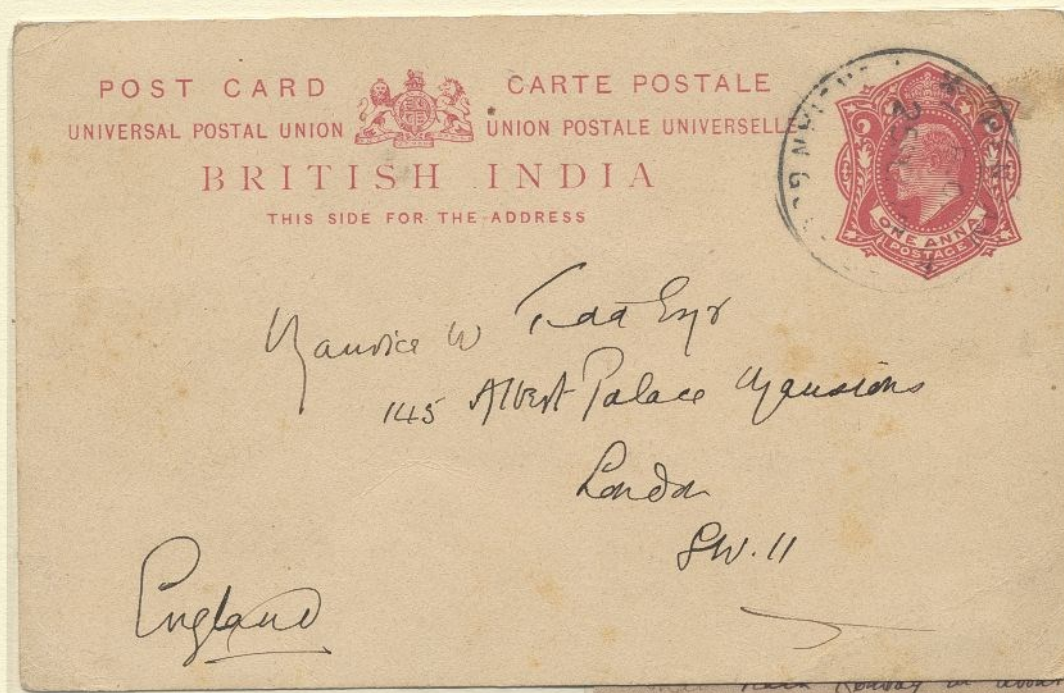


Rates: Free of charge for soldiers

Routes: Henjam 18 April 1918 to England via Bombay. No further markings

1-anna postal stationery card used to England

The only postal stationery recorded used from Henjam



Rates: 1 anna

Routes: Henjam m/s 23 August 1917 to London

Concession to the Anglo-Persian Oil Co. Thus regarded as private territory

Indian Post Office: Opened 1917 as a result of the WWI. In 1920 it came under control of the Mesopotamian authorities. Closed from 1st April, 1923. Very little letter mail related to Abadan seem to have survived. The post office was mainly used for money transfers by employees India or elsewhere.

Persian Post Office : There was no post office before or during the existence of an Indian P O. The island was a concession i e private property of the Anglo-Persian Oil Company which did not allow any Persian PO within its territory! A Persian post office **opened** only in 1925. However, for a week or so in 1913 the Persian postal authorities did try to establish a post office at their customs house but was chased away!

Double circle postmark without "killer". Registered to Scotland in 1919. Three recorded registered



Rates: 2 annas. Reg fee: 2 1/2 as

Routes: Abadan 17 Mars 1919 to Paisley, Scotland, 18 April 1919

Double circle postmark with "killer". To Holland 1922

Half anna postal stationery envelope. The **only recorded** postal stationery used from Abadan IPO
Prof Roxroy was a self-proclaimed atrologer who foresaw the Great War! He advertised a lot in Asian publications



Rates: 3 1/2as

Routes: Abadan to Holland via Bombay

Frankings: A Dutch postman's rectangular mark "A 65" at back

II. Indian & Persian
POs in Persia littoral

Abadan IPO & Persian P O

Persian PO 1925 -
Postmarks & rates

No "killer" in circle. From Italy. Incoming very elusive



Rates: Italian 15 ctms for ppc

Routes: Venice 14 VII 1920 via Aden 1 Aug 1920 to Abadan 25 Aug. 1920 via Bombay

When at the end of March 1923 the Indian POs closed down in Persia, an agreement between the Indian and Persian authorities had taken place with the purpose to enable Iran to develop and continue the Indian services. One of these was the securing of exchange of value payable articles with India on a rupee basis

Specially made REGISTERED INSURED LETTER envelope - probably by the APOC oil company -
for exclusive use in the Persian oil fields. Denominations in both Rupees and Krans

Rates: 3 Kran 10ch. Breakdown not possible. Routes: Abadan ? Jan 1926 to Punjab 24 Jan 1926. Endorsed via Karachi

REGISTERED INSURED LETTER. No. 108

FROM VALUE Rs. 200 As 0 (Rupees Two Hundred)
Only) Francs 350 Cnts. Weight 129g

To: 3-0-
M Barkat Ali Blacksmith
Ladwan Road, Village & post Office
Dhariwal
Dist. Gurdaspur
Punjab (India)

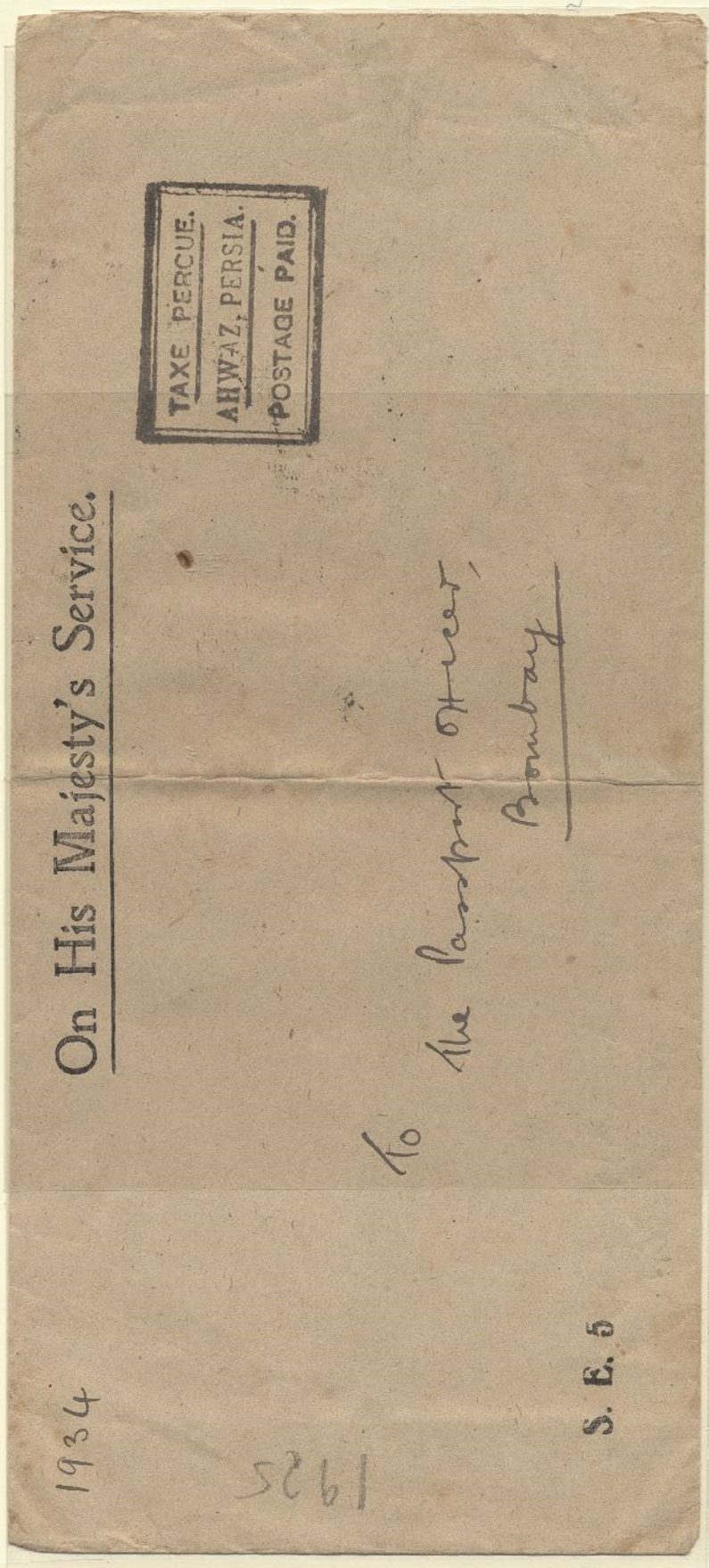
Via Karachi

*From: Glam Din Fitter
No. 27. B. A. Class.
Anglo Persian Oil Company
Abadan (Persian Gulf)*

The Indian POs closed down as from 1 April 1923. Persia was supposed to continue the Indian postal services but sometimes failed due to internal political problems resulting in frequent problems to delivering postage stamps. That led to mail was hand stamped "**Postage Paid**". The Ahwaz Persian post office could face shortages while simultaneously the nearby small oil drilling place of Maidan-i-Naphtun was provided stamps arranged by the oil company A.P.O.C. Ahwaz transited mail from Maidan-i-Naphtun that did not have initially a Persian PO of its own.

An O.H.M.S. cover addressed to Bombay in 1925 with

TAXE PERCUE/AHWAZ, PERSIA/POSTAGE PAID hand stamp



Routes:

Sent
16 IV 25
Ahwas
(Bender
Nasseri)
postmark at
reverse
and arrived
Bombay
27 June 1925
(reverse)

**II. Indian & Persian
Pos in Persia littoral**

Abadan Persian PO

Persian PO 1925 -
Postmarks & rates

Taxe Percue

The PO opened in 1925. There was a severe stamp shortage and deliveries were erratic. Sporadic mail seen from the middle of 1926. A Taxe Percue hand stamp, TAXE PERCUE/ABADAN, 53mm, was used

Rates:

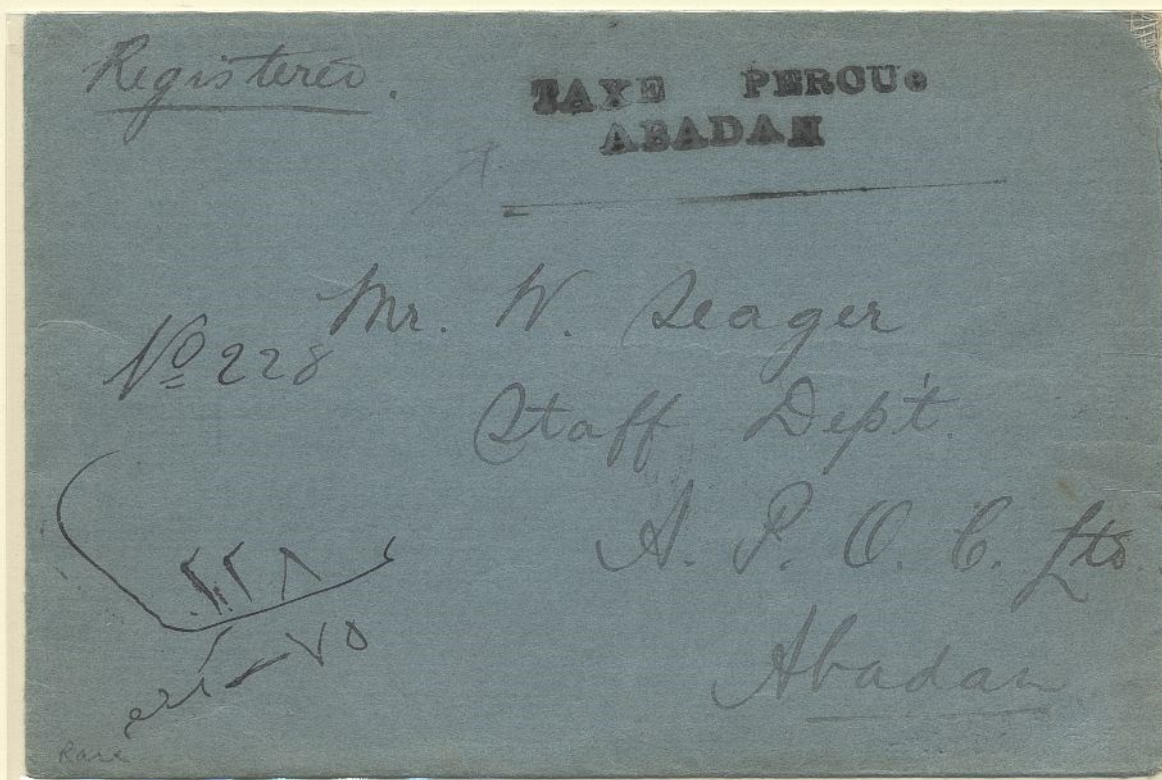
Free of charge

Routes:

Registered
m/s
local letter

Taxe Percue
mark used

A Persian
circled post
mark dated
17-5-26 in
Persian on
reversal



Specially made REGISTERED LETTER INSURED envelope - probably by the APOC oil company -
for exclusive use in the Persian oil fields. Denominations in both Rupees and Krans

<p>NOTE: <i>28/5</i> PLEASE VERIFY CONTENTS. SEAL WITH SENDER'S NAME SEAL. SPACE BETWEEN ANY TWO SEALS OR A SEAL AND A CORNER SHOULD NOT EXCEED AN INCH.</p>	<p>REGISTERED LETTER INSURED</p> <p>FOR RS. <i>100</i> KRS. <i>100</i>)=FRANKS CTS.</p> <p>No. _____ GRMS</p>
<p>FROM: <i>از طرف لاسید محمد بناء</i> <i>در راه کرد آغلی عسکر اسیر حاج</i> <i>خیابان صدر آبادان</i></p> <p>(PERSIAN GULF)</p>	<p>TO: <i>خدمت خبیب مستطاب ابر اکرم آقا المیزا</i> <i>محمد دیراچی دام و نه شرف خود ملا</i> <i>فرمایید بار باره سراج که مقابل بانک</i> <i>عاشق</i> <i>اصفهان</i></p>

Rates:

3 Kran 10ch

Routes:

Abadan
Persian PO
18-8-8
Persian calen-
der
(=9 10 1929)
via
Mohammerah
same date
to Isfahan
arriving
23 11 29

II. Indian & Persian
POs in Persia littoral

Forerunner

Mohammerah
postmarks

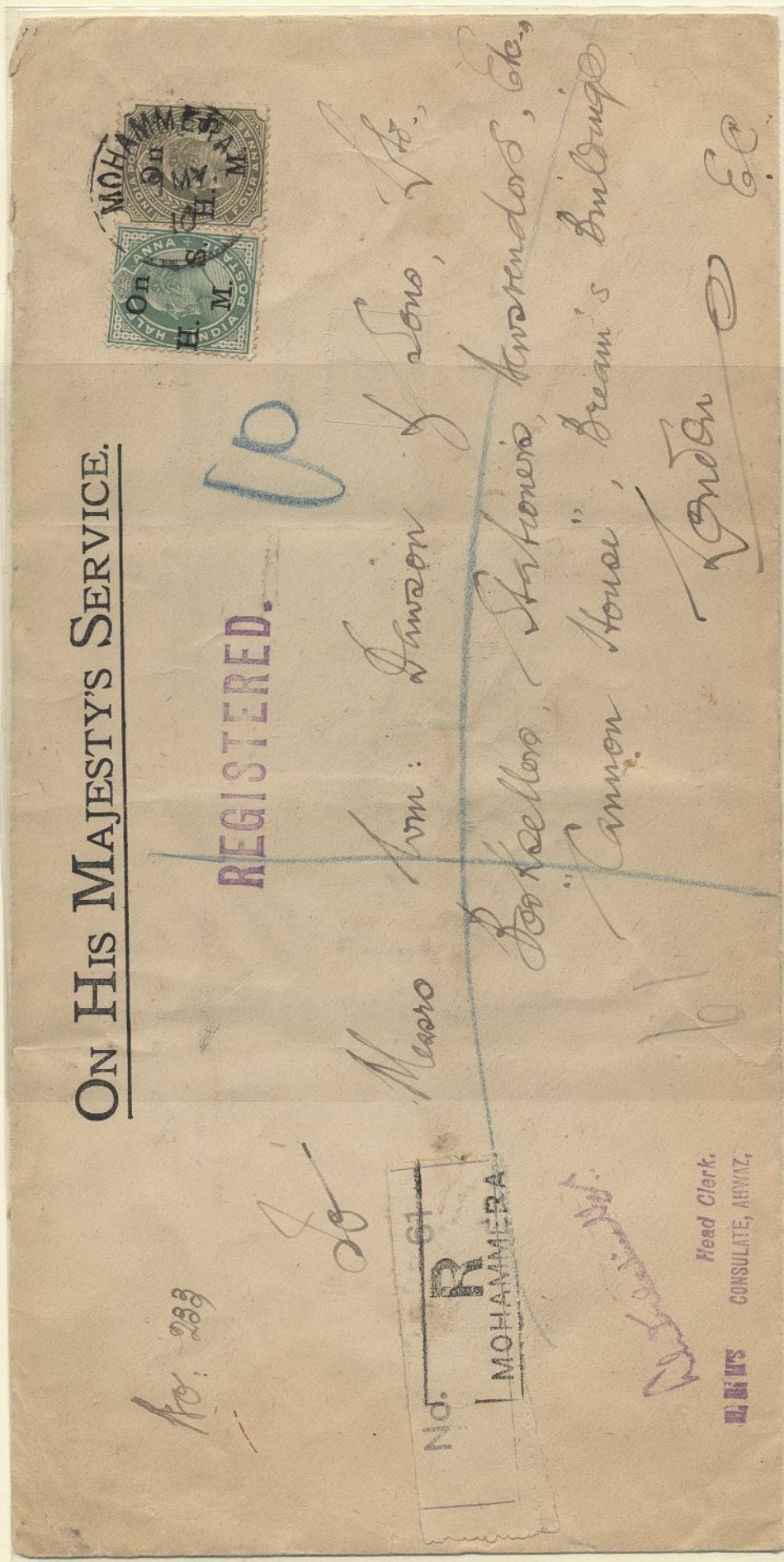
For Ahwaz

Before an Indian post office opened in Ahwaz during the WWI Campaigns, mail was sent via Mohammera IPO

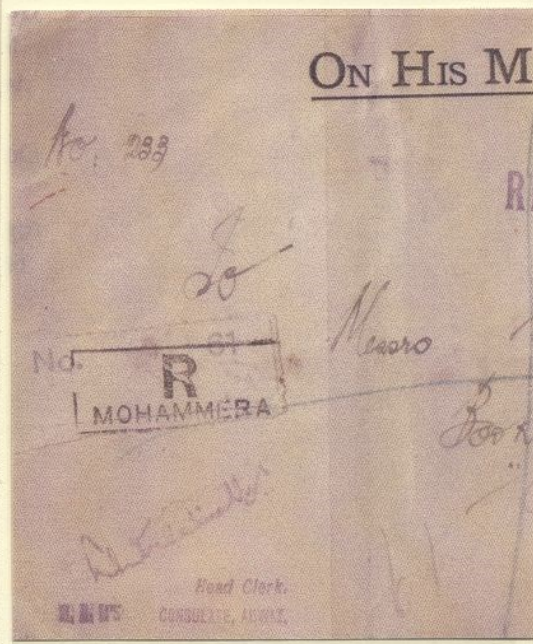
O.H.M.S letter from Ahwaz via Mohammera to London in 1910

Notes: The sender was the British Consulate at Ahwaz as seen from the red hand stamp at bottom left.

Ahwaz Indian post office opened only on 15th of October 1915 by the British to protect the oil fields



Picture of part of cover (70%) in size showing Consulate, Ahwaz, handstamp



Rates: 2 ½as
Reg fee: 2as

Opened 1915 due to the Mesopotamian Campaign in WW I

Indian Post Office: Opened during WWI on 15 Oct 1915 after British troops had invaded Ahwaz to protect the oilfields. It was discussed to be opened already in 1913 but was strongly objected by the Persian Government. In 1920 it was decided that all four Indian post offices in Arabistan should fall under the authority of Mesopotamia. Ahwaz closed down in April 1923. A weekly steamer service was opened between Magil (Basra) and Ahwaz for mail to Mesopotamia in March 1919. This route then became the easiest for mail to and from this part of Persia to Mesopotamia and beyond.

Persian Post Office: Opened in 1892 at nearby Bandar-Nasseri. Very little mail as Persian rate costlier. In 1912 there was a twice weekly service to Mohammerah, twice weekly to Shustar and Dezful, and once weekly to Ram Hormoz and Isfahan; all five services by foot messengers.

Without "killer". Reg letter with combination of Indian stamps and I.E.F. overprints
I.E.F. mail from Ahwaz **unrecorded** in several references

The registration label is a preprinted BASRA BASE, struck over and with added handstamp AHWAZ.

A red Mesopotamian PASSED CENSOR applied



Rates: 2 1/2as

Routes: Ahwaz 13 February 1918 to London 20 April 1918

Situation: A Persian town on the river Karun north of Abadan. Important trade center, later replaced by Bandar Naseri a few km away when the Persian Government opened the river Karun to foreign trade in late 19th century

Postmark, double circle with "killer". Hour space below date
The registration label has got a large handstamp AHWAZ



Rate: 2 1/2as. Registration fee: 2as

Routes: Ahwaz 1 MAR (19)21 to London 31 MAR

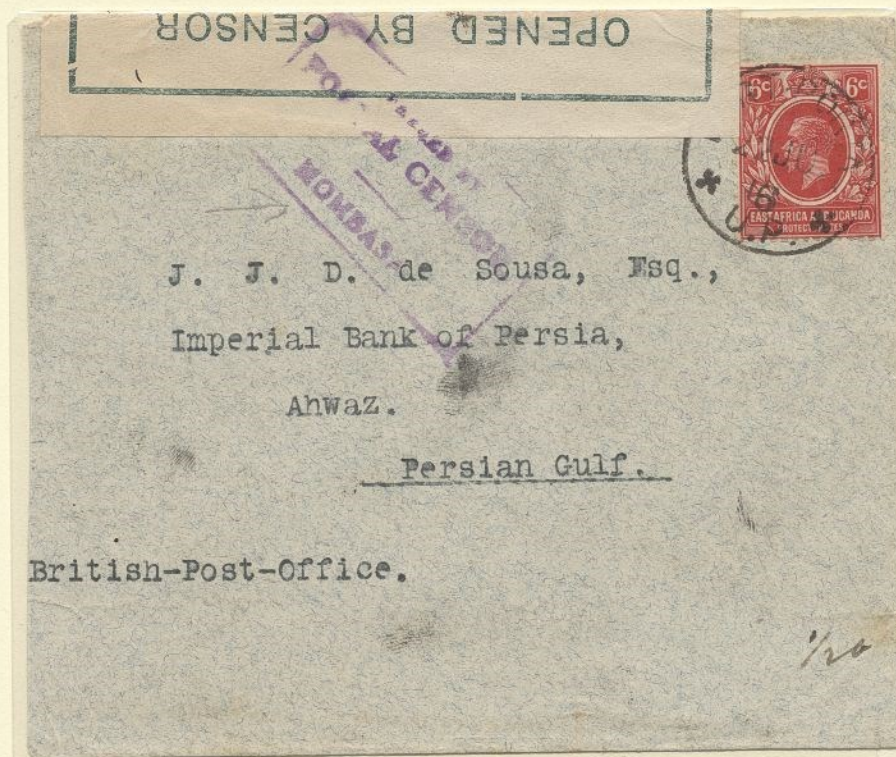
Incoming letter from East Africa 1916

A Martial Law label from East Africa and a Mombasa postal censor

Rates: 6 cents

Routes:

From
East Africa
22 JU/(19)16
via Mombasa
4 JULY and
Bombay
19 JUL 16
departing
Bombay
20 JUL 16



Ahwaz (Bandar Nasseri)

OPENED UNDER MARTIAL LAW, Double circle with "killer"

One of very few recorded Persian mail has this green label



Rates: 2 ½as

Routes: Ahwaz 12 APR 16 to London. No further markings.

Double circle with hour space below date. To Bombay 1920

Rates: 2 ½as

Routes: Ahwaz 3 August 1920 to Bombay 15 August 1920



Double circle, with no "killer". Hour space below date

The censure "D" was used in Mesopotamia. At times mail from Arabistan went via Mesopotamia during WWI



Rates: 2 ½ as. Registration fee: 2 as

Routes: Ahwaz 21 Feb 1917 to Bombay 6 March 1917

Markings: The registration label has a hand stamped small size AHWAZ

Letter from Persian PO of Bandar Nasser (Ahwaz) in Hergeisa 1320=1903



Rates: 5 chahi

Routes: Ahwaz Persian PO (Bandar Nasser) via Mohammerah Persian PO to Isfahan on the Lynch route

Markings: The B Nasser mark inverted. The Mohammerah, 30 mm double circle at back, is a transit mark

Indian Post Office: sub-office 1918 first under the **Mesopotamian Military Administration** till 1920 as Arabistan occupied. Then transferred to civil authorities. Opened due to congestion at the IPO at Ahwaz. Closed 30 March 1923. Little mail. Handled mainly money orders from 1000 Indians and 50 Europeans. **Less than ten items** recorded in total.
Persian Post Office: No Persian PO existed because the oil fields were treated as a private concession belonging to the Oil Company. Not until 1925 did a Persian PO open at a nearby place named Masdjede-Soleyman.

Letter sent under Military administrative period. Cancel F.P.O. 134. Only two recorded



Rates: 2 ½as

Routes: Maidan-i-Naphtun 19 Jan 20 to Kent, UK, No arr marking

Under civil administration. Large double circle with short "killer". Date in the centre
1-anna card sent to India 1920. The only recorded p stationery from this place



Rates: 1 anna. Routes: Maidan-i-Naphtun 6 Oct 1920 to Bombay

Notes: The card was cut wrongly on left side at the printing process. Smaller than normal size

II. Indian & Persian
Pos in Persia littoral

Maidan-i-Naphtun

Military admin.
Civil administration

Interim period 1923 - 1924

When the Indian post office closed in 1923 the oil company A.P.O.C. arranged for postal facilities from Maidan-i-Naphtun by having stamps available. Mail was then sent down in bulk uncanceled to A.P.O.C. at Bandar Nasseri (Ahwaz) where the Persian post office would care for the bag. Thus all mail was cancelled Bandar-Nasseri. Also registered mail was handled in a similar manner.

Registered letter to USA in 1924. Endorsed Maidan-i-Naphtun and Ahwaz



Rates: 1 Kran. Registration fee: 1 Kran

Routes: Endorsed Maidan-i-Naphtun, forwarded in bulk to Bandar-Nasseri cancelled 8 VII 1924 arriving Boston 7 Aug 1924
Assumed to have gone steamer to Bombay, Europe and USA

Markings: The red "REGISTERED" handstamp applied in Boston, USA

**II. Indian & Persian
POs in Persia littoral**

Maidan-i-Naphtun

No post office

Interim period 1923 -24. No post office

No post office existed. The selling of postage stamps, etc was undertaken by the oil company that also arranged for the transportation in closed bags of the mail to Bender Nasserri where all mail was officially handled

Registered picture post card cancelled at B Nasserri sent to Belgina Congo



Rates: 12 ch. **Registration fee:** 1 Kran

Routes: Maidan-i-Naphtun as per m/s 12 3 24, Bandar Nasserri 15 III 24 via Mohammerah 16 III 24

Notes: The 13ch extra could be for extra postage to Africa?

Interim period April 1923 -1924. Mail via Bandar-Nasserri (Ahwaz)

Until the Persian post office was opened at nearby Masjid-i-Sulaiman mail from the oilfields was transported by arrangement of the A.P.O.C. to the Persian PO at Bandar-Nasserri. Adhesives probably were provided by the oil company as well as it arranged for weighting and collecting postage fees.

BY AIR SERVICES, BAGHDAD - CAIRO

Rates: 6 Kr
incl air mail

Routes: M/s
Masjid-i-
Naphtun
via Bandar
Nasserri (Ahwaz)
10 V 24
to Baghdad
By air to
Cairo

In 1922 the
first regular
air mail service
started in the
region, from
Baghdad to
Cairo, then by
Ship to
Europe.



***The Indian SPECIAL postal services to be maintained by the Persian postal system**

The 30th of March 1923 was officially the day of closure for all the Indian post offices in Persia littoral. In a few cases however Indian post offices continued to function for a few weeks until Persian postal authorities took over. In some cases the Persian authorities did not open an office until some years later

O.H.M.S letter sent last day of opening.



Rates: 2as 12 pies = 3 annas

Routes: Bandar Abbas 30th of March 1923 and addressed to Bombay

Markings: The date 30 MAR 1923 in the postmark and in m/s 30/3/ 1923

The Basic Agreement

Although the British/Indian postal system introduced proper postal services in Persia in the 1860s the Indian PO's were after the Madrid UPU Convention in 1920 no longer recognized by UPU since the IPOs possible legal justification had vanished. Persia rightfully demanded their closure and asked to have them handed over by 1st January 1922.

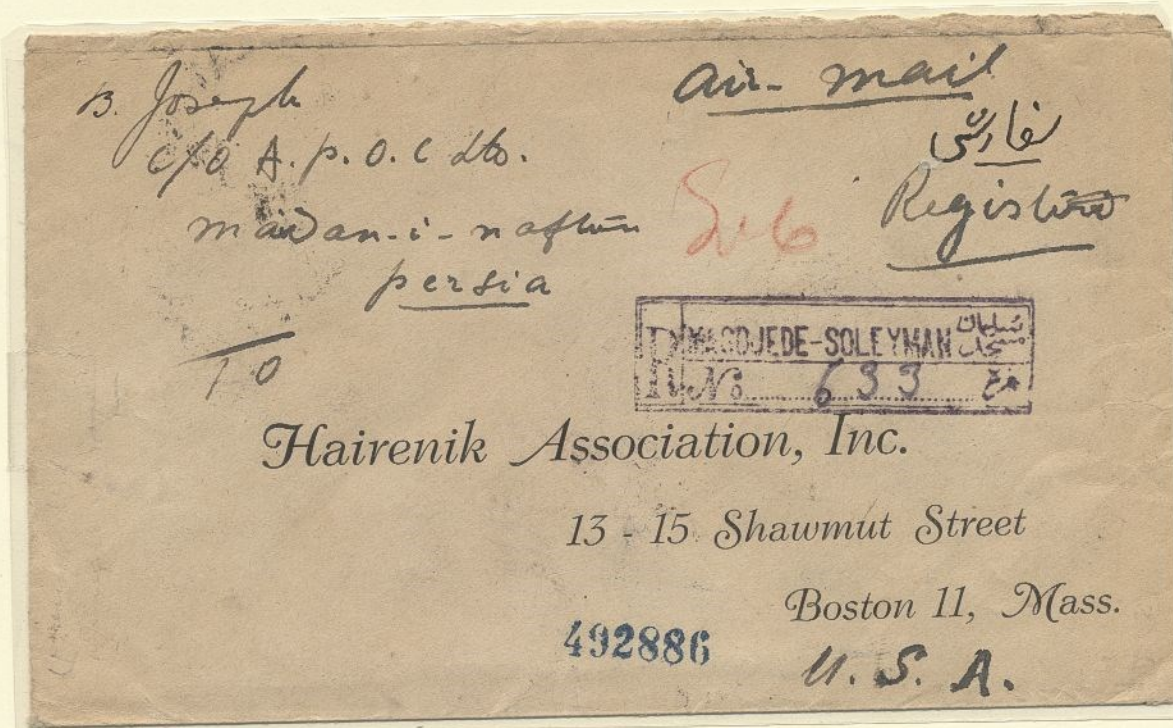
As a result a postal conference was finally held at Bushire between the postal authorities of Persia, India and Mesopotamia (Iraq)* in December 1922 with the purpose, of regulating the conditions and formalities for the closure of the Indian and Iraq POs in Persia and the obligations on Persia to get organized for a good organization and smooth working of the new services. The following main points were agreed on at Bushire, that

- the Persia post offices in South Persia and in Arabistan shall be controlled and supervised by an experienced European or American postal officer
- a Money Order system will be introduced with India on a rupee basis (90% of the money order business in the Gulf originated with Indians)
- the system of exchange of value payable articles with India on a rupee basis be introduced
- the exchange of insured articles or articles with value declared
- the IPOs to be closed down as from 1st April 1923 and to be handed over to the Persian postal authorities (Abadan and Maidan-i-Naphtun POs were to be closed down altogether. However, when a Persian PO did open in Abadan in 1925 it followed the above system).

In the main the British were able to safeguard their continuous interests in the manner the Indian postal services in Persia had developed.

*The Mesopotamian authorities were responsible for the post offices in Arabistan

Nearby Persian PO of Masjede-Soleyman opened 1925 replacing the old IPO at Maidan-i-Naphtun
Registered airmail to USA 1925



Rates: 51 chahi in total incl air mail fee. 20 gram costs 1 kran = 20 chahi. Breakdown rates not known
Routes: Masjede-Soleyman 15 8 4 (Persian calendar) = 6 Nov 1925, via Mohammerah 10 Nov, Bagdad 12 Nov. From Bagdad by air to Cairo arriving 14 Nov. Then by ship to Europe, train and finally by ship to New York arriving 30 Nov 1930



Picture of the back reduced